

## THE TIMES

1785-1985

### Tomorrow

Undaunted  
Forty years  
of the  
United Nations  
Wedded misery  
The arranged  
marriage that  
went wrong  
Black and white  
Peter Kellner on  
the petty politics  
of apartheid  
Euro route  
Stuart Jones previews  
Britain's football  
challenge in Europe

## Portfolio

There were two winners in yesterday's Portfolio competition in *The Times*. Mr Stephen Walsh of Rushlip, Middlesex, and Mr Ernest Dunn of London each receive £1,000. Portfolio list, page 28. How to play, information service, back page.

## Geldof aims to stop aid dependence

Bob Geldof of Live Aid returned last night from a 12-day, 15,000-mile trip to the famine-stricken countries of Africa convinced that "we are saving lives". He said the most urgent objective next year would be to enable three million refugees to leave their camps before they became too dependant on aid.

Rocking the boat, page 14

## School squeeze

Parents are spending more on essential items for state schools, including textbooks, microcomputers and school decoration.

## Wembley sale

Wembley stadium is being sold in a deal expected to lead to a £500 million redevelopment at the sports complex.

## Bid record

Elders IXL, the Australian brewer of Fosters lager, has launched a record £1.8 billion takeover bid for Allied-Lyons.

## Mubarak anger

President Mubarak of Egypt accused the US and Tunisia of stabbing him in the back over the capture of the Achille Lauro hijackers.

## Lending call

Mr Paul Volcker, US Federal Reserve Board chairman, is pressing leading banks to lend \$20 billion (£14 billion) to poor nations to avert a new debt crisis.

## Princess in Ulster

The Princess of Wales made an unannounced five-hour visit to Ulster and met shoppers in Belfast city centre.

## Mexico misery

Mexico, reeling from the effects of the earthquake and a fall in oil prices, now faces the threat of hyper-inflation.

## Back in training

Last Suspect, this year's Grand National winner, has been brought out of retirement and is back in training with Tim Forster.

## Leader page, 17

Letters: On the Gillick case, from Dr R. L. Marshall, and others; teachers' pay, from Mr C. Martin. Leading articles: Nassau and Pretoria; bill of rights; Helsinki and Budapest.

## Features, pages 14-16

The great jobs fraud: will the Pope carry the church? Looking for virtue in Frankfurt. Spectrum: Geldof rocks the boat. Fashion: Suzy Menkes on the shape of things in Paris.

## Obituary, page 18

Mr James Wellwood, Father Kilian Lynch. Computer Horizons, 20-22. Send a robot, not yourself: low cost designer chips; industry accepts network standard; Japanese lesson in hi-tech investment.

## Classified, 20-22, 31-34

Computer, legal appointments.

Home News	2-5	Events	36
Overseas	7-12	Law Report	4
Arts	18-19	Parliament	18
Bridge	12	Sale Room	18
Business	23-29	Science	29-31
Church	18	Sport	35
Court	18	TV & Radio	35
Crosswords	14, 36	Theatre etc	36
Diary	16	Weather	18
		Wills	

# Summit accord on apartheid hailed as key step

From Nicholas Ashford, Nassau

Commonwealth leaders were yesterday congratulating themselves on reaching agreement on a package of measures increasing pressure on South Africa to end apartheid. But there were many differing interpretations on the extent to which Mrs Margaret Thatcher had had to compromise to make agreement possible: the likely impact the accord would have on the South African Government; and what the fine print of the agreed seven-page document will actually entail.

Mrs Thatcher, anxious that the new restrictive measures listed in the accord should not be seen as capitulation by her on the issue of sanctions, claimed she had persuaded the other 45 Commonwealth leaders present that her approach to South Africa was the correct one. "They joined me," she declared shortly after agreement was reached late on Sunday night.

But Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said Mrs Thatcher had made significant concessions; Britain had "sundered its position as to its literal interpretation of sanctions".

He added: "One man's 'measures' is another woman's 'sanctions'." referring to the absence of the word "sanctions" in the text of the accord. However, no one was in the mood for recrimination yesterday as Commonwealth leaders celebrated what they unanimously believed to be a significant step towards the dismantling of apartheid. "This is a moment of great joy," said President Kaunda of Zambia.

The accord is a carefully balanced package of sanctions, threats and inducements to encourage the South African Government to begin a dialogue with representative black leaders on ways of replacing apartheid with a non-racial system of government. It contains a number of what Mrs Thatcher described as "psychological signals" to South Africa that the international community is losing patience with Pretoria's failure to reform itself.

It lists five steps it wants South Africa to take as a sign of its determination to dismantle apartheid, including a lifting of the state of emergency, the release of Mr Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, and a lifting of the ban on the African National Congress.

It calls for the setting up of a Commonwealth committee of "eminent persons" to help promote dialogue between the white authorities and black South Africans.

However, the agreement emphasizes, at Mrs Thatcher's insistence, that dialogue would only take place "in the context of a non-racial system of government".

Responding to calls for increased police manpower, the Home Secretary said that the Metropolitan Police had scope to increase its strength by a further 300 officers, up to authorized establishment level, reorganization would release a further 200 officers for operational duty, and he had agreed to an establishment increase of 50 officers to meet up action against trafficking.

Mr Hurd added: "Beyond that I have set urgent work in hand to assess where there are specific needs for further increases in the Metropolitan Police establishment."

He made it clear later, however, that he would want value for money from the police, and that there was no question of a blank cheque being issued.

Parliament, page 4

## Title fight to go ahead

The British middleweight boxing title eliminator, which was in danger of being called off because the police feared crowd trouble, is to go ahead as scheduled on November 5 at Wembley. The British Boxing Board of Control announced. The police had objected to the contest between Mark Kaylor and Errol Christie after the two boxers were involved in a brawl at a press conference at a London casino, and the police feared that the incident between the white and black boxers could lead to a racial clash between rival supporters.

## Opera lover's £1m curtain raiser for Covent Garden

By Patricia Clough

The Royal Opera House has been given £1 million - its most munificent donation - by an opera and ballet lover who sits in the front right hand side of the stalls.

The benefactor is Mrs Jean Sainsbury, aged 60, a retired public relations consultant who five years ago unexpectedly inherited a fortune from a father she scarcely knew. She is no relation to the Sainsbury grocery chain family who are also patrons of the arts.

The gift, in the form of an endowment fund and the income expected to be around £80,000 a year initially, will be used every other year to sponsor the production of a classical

ballet or opera. In the intervening years it will be used to help to redecorate and refurbish the opera house.

Mrs Sainsbury understands she will have a certain amount of say as to which production is financed by her money and will be able to indicate what refurbishing should be done.

"I would like to see Covent Garden the finest opera house in the world. Not that it is not already, but there could be some improvements to the fabric," she told *The Times*.

Sir Claus Moser, chairman of the opera house, said: "Apart from the help it gives to us at Covent Garden, it sets a splendid precedent in creating an endowment fund. This must be one of the vital ways of

## 'Dazzle' theory in Britain's worst motorway crash



The burnt-out coach and crushed cars after yesterday's crash.

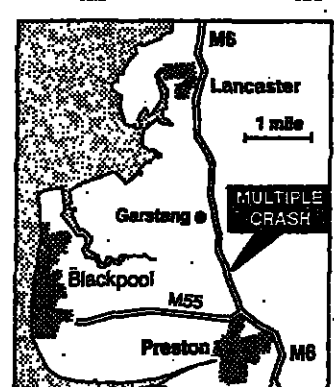
## Thirteen killed as coach and cars pile up on M6

By Alan Hamilton and Ronald Faux

Thirteen people died, and another 36 were injured, some seriously, in a pile-up on the M6 north of Preston, Lancashire, yesterday. It was the worst single motorway accident in Britain.

The accident happened in bright sunshine at 1.25pm on a stretch of the southbound carriageway just south of Forton service station, where two lanes had been closed off for repairs. The pile-up, which turned almost instantly to a blazing inferno, involved eleven vehicles, including a coach, a van and nine cars.

Most of the victims were passengers on the coach, an Eastern Scottish Citylink service on its daily scheduled run from Edinburgh to Victoria



coach station in London. Police said that the coach, which was carrying 45 passengers, was completely burnt out after ending up on top of two other vehicles.

The accident happened at almost exactly the same spot

where two people were killed the previous day in an accident involving a coach belonging to the same Edinburgh-based operator.

A fleet of ambulances ferried the injured to the Royal Preston Hospital, where 26 victims were treated. Ten of those, including two children, were detained in the hospital's intensive care unit, most of them suffering from serious burns.

Nine other survivors, mainly suffering the effects of smoke inhalation, were treated at the Royal Lancaster Hospital.

Firemen and ambulancemen at the scene of the disaster reported that most of the dead appeared to have suffered severe burns or smoke inhalation.

Continued on back page, col 1

## Couple 'were trapped in flames'

A survivor of the M6 crash, who was "being treated in hospital for shock, described how he saw two people

scrambling as they died trapped in their car.

Mr Fred Williams, aged 37, an ambulance driver from near Shotton colliery on Tyne-side, said that a car behind him slowed down, but a coach carried on and went over the top of the car on the contraflow system.

The car's petrol tank exploded and set the coach on fire. Mr Williams's car, only three weeks old, was hit by a van and another vehicle.

Sitting in the on-patients' department at the Royal Preston Hospital, Mr Williams said: "It was horrific. The worst part was seeing two people trapped in a car, a man and a woman. They were trapped by their seat belts and I watched them screaming and

dying. I will never forget that scene."

Mr Williams, with his wife, child and two cousins, who were travelling to Blackpool for a holiday, escaped serious injury and were treated for severe shock.

Another survivor Mr John Lavery, aged 41, of Macclesfield, who had been travelling from Scotland, described how he felt a bump from behind. He looked into his mirror to see a coach sliding across the road before another car hit him.

He said: "I got out and just saw the coach burst into flames. It was across the first and second lanes but was still on its wheels. The driver was trying to break a window to get out."

"The fire was just at the front at first and then spread. I saw passengers in the coach moving down trying to get out. I am very lucky."

Mr Lavery was treated for head injuries. His son, aged 15, and mother-in-law, who were passengers, were released after treatment for shock, but his father-in-law is still being treated for back and neck injuries.

Police Inspector George Lustey, a passenger on the coach travelling to London, escaped with his wife through a back emergency door.

He saw a car near by also in flames with people screaming inside. He tried to open the passenger door but it was jammed. Rescuers tried unsuccessfully to pull a woman in the passenger seat out through the shattered windscreen.

"I think she was among those who died," Mr Lustey said.

Emergency information number: Preston (0772) 615624.

Barriers urged, back page

## Coal prices to rise by 4.5%

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The spectre of a "Scargill surcharge" on energy prices was finally laid to rest yesterday when the National Coal Board announced that coal prices would rise by 4.5 per cent from November 1, almost 1.5 per cent below the rate of inflation.

At the same time, Mr Malcolm Edwards, the NCB's commercial director, predicted that because of increasing demand and better productivity the board could achieve financial break-even during 1986-87, a year earlier than expected.

Although the miners' strike cost the nation dearly - an estimated £6 billion of which £1.75 billion was the cost to the mining industry - the board said the new coal price increases meant that in real terms coal was now 4 per cent below the prices of November 1980.

## NUM in Notts shut out by coal board

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The National Coal Board yesterday removed one of the major obstacles to the development of the newly-formed Union of Democratic Mineworkers by declaring that the National Union of Mineworkers will not be recognized by Nottinghamshire.

The decision came as the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, decided to meet the full executive of the NUM in an attempt to heal the breach in the coal industry. An eventual meeting with the UDM was not ruled out.

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, called for the talks in the face of a potential crisis for the whole of the labour movement, to explore whether it has a role in attempting to re-establish unity.

The NCB move to recognize the UDM, which has been backed by a three to one vote by Nottinghamshire pitmen, was

denounced yesterday by Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, as "union busting tactics".

Mr Albert Wheeler, Nottinghamshire area director of the board, announced that the NCB would only recognize duly elected representatives of miners in the county, based at Berry Hill, Mansfield. Those officials are still, in name, the NUM officers in the area, but they will soon become the staff of the UDM.

Mr Wheeler's declaration is a blow to the national union which will now not be allowed to occupy offices at pits in the county.

Mr Scargill's problems were compounded yesterday when the Durham-based Colliery Trade and Allied Workers Association revealed that its 1,600 members had also voted to join the UDM.

UDM structure, page 2

## Boost for jobless if Heseltine moves defence sites north

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, is working on plans to move defence installations away from the prosperous south-east into areas of high unemployment in the north.

In a policy shift which could upset the military establishment, Mr Heseltine had decided there is no reason why RAF, Army and Navy stores, depots, and training areas should continue to be concentrated so heavily in the south.

When decisions have to be taken about modernizing such establishments, Mr Heseltine intends that consideration will be given to closing them down, selling off the sites, and relocating them in depressed areas.

Areas badly in need of help would then benefit from the business and construction work generated by the switch.

Mr Heseltine's plans may encounter opposition from the Treasury. But his colleagues say he is determined - in his area of decision-making - to do something to arrest the process which has seen so much of the country's commercial and industrial wealth concentrated in the southern part of Britain, to the great detriment of areas like Merseyside, the north-east and the north-west.

The only reason that so many military establishments have been sited in the south, or at least in the wealthier parts of the country, is that Service chiefs over a period of decades have preferred to have them there, ministers believe.

After the inner city riots of 1981, Mr Heseltine was given special responsibility for Merseyside, an experience that further convinced him of the need for a vigorous regional policy and for the Government to co-operate fully and to take every opportunity to promote employment.

Black outlook, page 2

## Kinnock tone softer

Practical solutions to Liverpool's budget crisis must be considered, even if the Government is ultimately to blame for Merseyside's problems, Mr Neil Kinnock told the city council's leaders during a visit yesterday (Colin Hughes writes).

The Labour leader's tone at the meeting with Liverpool's mostly Militant-supporting leaders was considerably softer than the tough line he took at the Bournemouth conference three weeks ago.

Afterwards Mr Derek Hutton, the council's deputy leader, said the meeting was "fraternal, and very sympathetic," and that Mr Kinnock had agreed that Mr

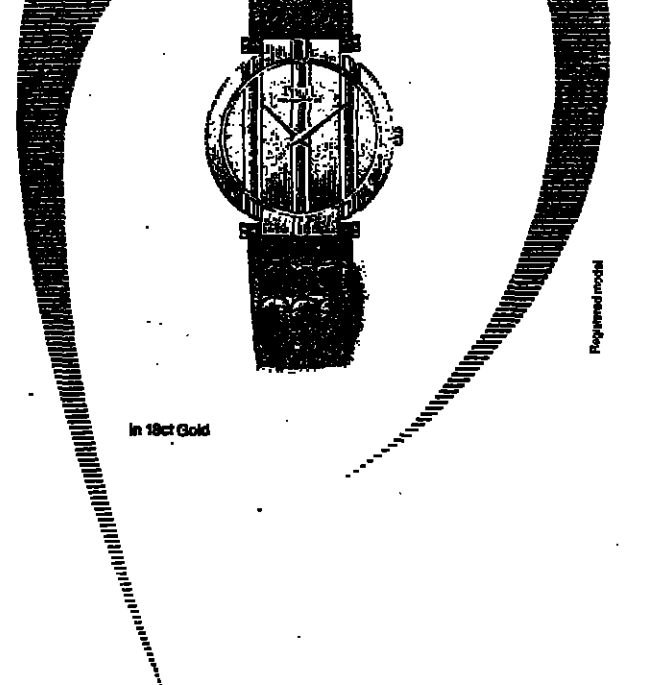
Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Environment, should visit the city and find more funds to fight its problems.

Mr Kinnock welcomed Liverpool's agreement to work with national trade union leaders and the Labour Party to seek a solution, and to withdraw staff redundancy notices.

While his strategy three weeks ago appeared to be strictly anti-Militant, he yesterday urged the Government to "restore to the city the resources it has taken away, and to stimulate investment here where it is desperately needed."

UDM structure, page 2

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## Young unemployed face new moves to toughen board and lodging rules

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to reintroduce its controversial board and lodging regulations which were ruled unlawful last July, again forcing people aged under 26 in bed and breakfast accommodation to move every two to eight weeks.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced that new temporary regulations, to last until April next year, are to be pushed through Parliament by November 4.

The regulations will apply only to new claimants, not, as previously, to existing boarders. The exemptions have been widened to include people who would suffer "exceptional hardship" if forced to move.

The decision brought fierce criticism from Labour MPs with even some Conservatives expressing reservations that the time limits were too short to allow people to look for work outside their home area.

The campaign for the Single Homeless (Char) said the regulations had been widely discredited. The decision to reintroduce them showed "that

the Government is determined to save money at the expense of the homeless".

The decision to reintroduce comes although the Government's appeal against the original ruling is to be heard late next month. Ministers fear that whatever the decision in that case the issue is likely to go to the House of Lords and clear regulations need to be in place in the meantime.

Mr Fowler said: "It is in the general interest that there should be stability during which the outcome of the appeal can be given proper consideration and the review, which we are committed to carrying out, completed".

He maintained that the way in which the regulations were now being introduced met the objections raised when Mr Justice Mann ruled them unlawful, although Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's chief social services spokesman, said his initial advice was that they would still be illegal.

Mr Fowler introduced the regulations to curb young unemployed people moving to

seaside resorts and some other towns to live on board and lodging supplementary benefit. But housing organizations claimed they caused much hardship and suffering to those who had no choice but to live in board and lodging, and did nothing to curb abuse of the system by landlords.

Mr Fowler told MPs yesterday of a rise in the bill from £166 million in December 1982 to £380 million last December, with those aged under 26 claiming benefits rising from 23,000 to around 85,000.

He said there was clear evidence of abuse. A check in the Euston area earlier this year disclosed that 600 of 1,200 young people claiming board and lodging in hotels no longer actually lived there. Checks were now being made in other regions.

Mr Meacher said yesterday that the growth in board and lodging was "no fault of individual claimants but is almost entirely due to the huge increase in unemployment plus the almost total collapse of the building programme".



Striking teachers marching through Manchester yesterday to a city centre rally (Photograph: Mike Arton).

## Teachers strike over graffiti dispute

By Malcolm Long, Manchester

A strike in Manchester by 4,500 teachers led to more than 74,000 pupils and sixth form college students being sent home at lunchtime.

The dispute centres on five pupils who were alleged to have written obscene and racist graffiti naming mem-

bers of staff and wives. The five were suspended from Poundswick High School, Wythenshawe, south Manchester, last June.

But Manchester City council education committee insisted they be readmitted. The school staff refused to teach them. As a result 21 teachers have been sus-

pended and 29 others have walked out. The school has been effectively closed for nearly a month.

Mr John Watters, the general secretary of the National Union of Teachers in Manchester, said: "It was an overwhelming success, a marvellous show of support in defence of standards in our schools."

● Sir Keith Joseph's wish to see the disruptive action by teachers tested in the courts is to be fulfilled with a High Court hearing next month. The NUT has served writs on two Labour and three Conservative controlled authorities for deducting money from teachers' pay packets for refusal to cover.

## UDM's top officers face new elections

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

The leaders of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers have underlined their insistence on the importance of ballots in the new union by writing into the constitution that fresh elections for the top three jobs have to be held within 18 months.

In the meantime they will be filled by Mr Roy Lynk, as general secretary, Mr Ken Toon, hitherto the South Derbyshire area secretary, as president and Mr George Hunter, chairman of the Durham-based Colliery Trades and Allied Workers' Association, as vice-president.

As the NUM itself has traditionally done, the new union retains a considerable measure of autonomy and individual practice among its component sections.

The three unions, all separately certified as independent before they took part in last Friday's ballot, will now become the three founding sections of the new union.

Under the Instrument of Amalgamation, all properties held before the ballot by the three unions, including the imposing Notts area headquarters at Berry Hill, Mansfield, and the South Derbyshire offices at Burton upon Trent, automatically pass into the hands of the new sections of the

UDM, as will the employment of their office staff.

The "authority and government" of the union will be vested in a delegate conference which will hold annual meetings each June, along with special meetings as are judged necessary.

A national executive and a national council will be responsible for running the union throughout the year "in accordance with the lawful resolutions of conference".

Individual subscriptions will vary slightly between the founding sections, but in each case will include 25p a week.

● Two Welsh miners who were jailed for life for the murder of a taxi driver during the pit strike challenged their conviction in the Court of Appeal in London yesterday.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, reserved judgement after hearing the appeal of Reginald Hancock, aged 22, and Russell Shankland, aged 21, both from Rhymney, Mid Glamorgan.

David Willie, the taxi driver, died after concrete objects, dropped from a bridge on to the Heads of the Valley Road near Aberfan, hit his vehicle while he was ferrying a working miner to Merthyr Vale Colliery last November.

## RUC chief provokes Dublin fury

The Irish Republic protested to Britain yesterday over alleged remarks by the chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in which he made "back-handed swipes" at its sense of priority in fighting terrorism.

Senior police officers in Dublin were angered by Sir John Hermon's reported comments, while officials involved in the delicate Anglo-Irish negotiations were agitated at his insensitivity.

Mr Peter Barry, the republic's Minister for Foreign Affairs, was in Luxembourg, but he instructed officials to summon the British ambassador in Dublin, Sir Alan Goodison, to receive a formal protest.

An Irish government spokesman contemptuously dismissed the tenor of Sir John's reported remarks which were understood to be broadly in line with what he said at an international police conference in Houston Texas.

It is thought Sir John was unaware that journalists were at the conference but the drift of what he said was reported by a columnist in the *Toronto Star*. During the seminar, Sir John, according to the journalist involved, Mr Ian Harvey, was "very oblique and subtle" in his criticisms.

## Wembley sold in £7m deal

By Cliff Feltham

Wembley stadium is being sold in a deal that will lead to a £500 million redevelopment of the sports complex.

Mr Brian Wolfson's investment company, Anglo Nordic, backed by a consortium, has bought a controlling stake in the complex from Mr Abdul Shamji, a Ugandan Asian businessman.

Mr Shamji's stake was held by his Gomba group in the company that effectively controlled the stadium, London Leisure and Arts Centre.

Mr Wolfson is thought to have paid between £5 million and £7 million for the crucial shareholding together with an agreement to repay substantial loans.

London Leisure acquired control of Wembley last year from the BET group for a reported £25 million.

## Baby girl 'shut up in drawer at night'

A girl aged three months who died after a violent shaking by her father had been on a social services "at risk" register for most of her life, Manchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

After her death, Charlene Salt was found to have suffered seven broken ribs and a broken arm, all of which had healed without being detected by social workers, nurses and doctors who had been closely monitoring the family because of their suspicions.

Charlene was shut up in a drawer all night if she cried and cats, dogs, a goose and a pet rat were allowed to roam the sitting room of her home, Mr Benet Hytner, QC, for the prosecution, said.

When aged two weeks, she had been taken into Oldham and District Hospital with bruises.

Charlene's father, David Salt, aged 26, of Pearly Bank,

## Poll 'crucial to BBC funding'

Future funding of the BBC will depend to a considerable extent on the result of a public opinion poll, Professor Alan Peacock, chairman of the Committee on Financing the BBC, said yesterday.

Of the 500 submissions his committee had received from interested parties, he said there was only a narrow majority opposed to the introduction of advertising or sponsorship - 202 to 186.

He told the annual meeting of the Voice of the Listener the picture it gives of public attitudes by its own survey which will be conducted by NDR.

He said that with technical advances making many television channels available and subscription television feasible, all previous assumptions about public service broadcasting were open to question.

## Awards for fuel efficient firms

Two London companies that cut their combined annual fuel bills by £106,000 through an energy saving investment of £131,000 were presented yesterday with the London Electricity Board's 1985 power for efficiency and productivity (PEP) awards.

The winners were Vinalith, a specialist printing company employing 25 people, and Smiths Industries Aerospace and Defence Systems, which employs 280.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$2.75; Belgium 8.00; Canada \$2.75; Germany 1.70; France 1.70; Hong Kong 1.70; India 1.70; Italy 1.70; Japan 1.70; Korea 1.70; Luxembourg 1.70; Malaysia 1.70; Mexico 1.70; Netherlands 1.70; New Zealand 1.70; Norway 1.70; Pakistan 1.70; Portugal 1.70; Singapore 1.70; South Africa 1.70; Sweden 1.70; Switzerland 1.70; Taiwan 1.70; Thailand 1.70; USA \$1.75; Yugoslavia 1.70.

## Liverpool budget crisis

## Bleak outlook for Labour's rescue bid

By Colin Hughes, Local Government Correspondent

Failure of the Labour Party and trade union rescue effort for Liverpool would leave the city council with only two choices: insolvency or a court application to quash the rate and levy a substitute.

The salvage attempt agreed last weekend and sealed yesterday by Mr Neil Kinnock, is being given less than half a chance of success. Many on Labour's national executive, a group of the most powerful trade union general secretaries, and the best brains in local government finance, have devoted most of their energies to Liverpool since Labour's Bournemouth conference two weeks ago, but find themselves little nearer a solution.

Their motives arise, not out of comradeship altruism, but horror of the consequences if the city's Militant leadership continues to sprint towards the cliff edge. Labour's public image, rigorously cleansed at Bournemouth, would be newly stained. Bitter antagonism would soon surface among trade unions when the money to pay wages ran out.

For local authorities further afield the potential consequences are equally dire. The gilt which local government bonds carry in the City would rub off overnight, raising council's borrowing costs everywhere.

No one knows if Militant's strategy is brinkmanship, or genuinely to force the Government's intervention hand with bin bags piling up on street corners. The chances of minis-



Mr Tony Byrne: "There is no initiative".

ters bailing Liverpool out now are nil. For Labour's front bench, the pressing concern is that when the flak starts flying Militant's heads and not theirs are poking over the parapet.

Internal knock-on from Liverpool within the Labour Party has meant negotiations with the city's leaders are finely balanced. In Liverpool itself, the recent talks have stirred first signs of life for two years among the council's non-militant Labour majority.

This weekend's flurry began on Saturday when Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield council and national executive local government chairman, visited the city.

Sunday's meeting with the nine general secretaries of the unions threatened by lay-offs was really a heavyweight ratification, and though Mr David Barnett, outgoing general secretary of the general municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, played an important role in the preparations, Mr

Kinnock's visit yesterday was mere formality.

Two new strands emerged at Mr Blunkett's meeting. First, the council leaders committed themselves to trying to bridge their budget gap. They had no choice: the Labour/trade union initiative had driven them into a corner where not even the hard left will sympathize if they refuse to play.

Second, the Labour national executive team became convinced for the first time that Mr Tony Byrne, Liverpool's finance chairman, is telling the truth when he says that bankruptcy is imminent: until then threats by Mr Derek Hutton the council's deputy leader of impending disaster has all proved empty.

Mr Byrne, enigmatic, outside Militant's cabal but sometimes harder liner than Militant itself, has become the pivotal figure in Liverpool. His view yesterday was that "there is no initiative as such".

All that the four Association of Metropolitan Authorities treasurers will discover, he claims, is that "what we've been saying for the past two-and-a-half years is true: it won't produce any more money". The associations' whip-round of other councils' capital allocation might help, "but I'm not optimistic", he said.

But last year, when the Labour Party made similar requests to open Liverpool's books, Mr Byrne said no outsider would be allowed even to talk to Mr Michael Reddington, Liverpool's treasurer, without his being present.

Three ways of bridging the budget gap have been can-

vassed. The association has offered to pull together spare borrowing allocation from other authorities: at most it would raise £5 million, more likely half that, and Mr Byrne argues it would only defer the crisis to April 1 next year.

Attempts to raise funds through the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy from banks and financiers have collapsed because the City views Liverpool as an impossible risk and advance publicity killed the delicate talks.

The unions' preferred method, capitalizing £27 million of housing receipts, is vetoed by Mr Byrne and Mr Hutton because they say it would mean cuts and job losses.

There is a fourth way, but no one, yet, dare touch it. Three High Court judges will declare, at the end of next week, that Liverpool's 9 per cent rate is illegal. Liverpool disputes that, although Labour politicians privately accept they are on dodgy ground over having agreed a deficit budget.

The High Court will not, however, quash the rate, because it has not been asked, it would take only one ratepayer, councillor, or a parliamentary request to the Attorney-General, to have the anomaly resolved with an application to the court.

The council's opposition parties and the Government will not move because Militant could blame the rate rise on them and, in the present climate, it would take a courageous Labour politician to force the issue.

## Exercise will test ability to rescue Britons abroad

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

About 5,000 members of the Armed Forces are to test their ability to rescue British citizens caught in dangerous situations abroad.

Exercise Purple Victory starts on October 30 and will take place mainly in the north of England. It will simulate action which would be required where British forces were invited to enter a foreign country to assist in the evacuation of Britons because that country felt it could no longer guarantee their safety.

The exercise will involve the dropping of two battalions of The Parachute Regiment, and the landing by sea of a battalion of Gurkhas, plus artillery, armoured vehicles and all their equipment and supplies. The main forces involved are those of 5 Airborne Brigade with supporting transport and other activity by the Royal Air Force, and to a lesser extent the Royal Navy.

The brigade took part in the Falklands.

## MPs to tackle thefts in airport security inquiry

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A Commons inquiry into crime at Heathrow Airport - described as "Thief Row" by a judge - is likely to begin within the next few weeks.

Earlier this month a judge at the Central Criminal Court said that the airport's security system "leaked like a sieve" and was in need of a big overhaul.

Mr Justice Michael Argyll, QC, who jailed four men for their part in one million dollar travellers' cheques theft racket, added: "It seems to me that

someone should go through the set up there like an east wind".

MPs on the Transport Select Committee, who are already committed to a general inquiry into airport security, are expected to pay special attention to the problem of crime at Heathrow.

The all-party select committee is likely to make a firm conclusion when it meets later this week, but it is known at least two of the senior members of the committee favour extending the investigation.

**If you think social progress has ground to a halt— think again.**

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For instance this year Dr Barnardo's (with your support) will help almost 14,000 children, young people, and their families with new ideas, schemes and methods.

Like ideas to give a profoundly handicapped youngster dignity and independence. Schemes to help families cope and grow stronger together, and methods to help each damaged child reach his or her full potential.

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In the next few months we will use this space to illustrate what we mean. But the point is this:

**There are new ways to help handicapped or deprived children — and they're happening at Dr Barnardo's.**



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مكتبة الأصيل



# Parental funding for state schools is £40m, PTA survey finds

By Lucy Hodges  
Education Correspondent

Parents are spending increasingly more money on buying essential items for state schools, according to a survey by the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, published yesterday.

Parents at present contributing towards essentials such as textbooks, library books, microcomputers, mini-buses, furniture, school decoration and buildings, according to the survey taken last winter by the largest parents' organization.

They are also buying some less conventional items for schools such as skeletons, fencing for rural science, safety goggles, drinking fountains, swimming pool repairs, Christmas turkeys, fan heaters, lawnmowers, bee-keeping equipment, and soft lavatory paper.

The survey was based on a questionnaire sent to all 800 of the confederations' home-school associations between October 1984 and March this year. There was a one in five response rate and schools were asked what problems existed in classroom and what state the school was in.

The survey showed that parental funding was contributing £6.56 for each child in primary schools and £3.20 for each secondary school pupil. Funds raised in 1983-84 by parent-teacher associations were 22.9 per cent more than in 1980-81. The corresponding figure in secondary schools is 17.6 per cent.

In 1983-84 total parental

## Main findings

In 72 per cent of primary schools, class sizes of mixed age children are above 26, the Government guideline. Usually 27 to 30, some classes more than 40. One had 47.

In 40 per cent of secondary schools, a significant increase in class sizes in spite of fewer pupils.

In more than 40 per cent of schools subjects dropped because of fewer teachers. In primary schools it is invariably music, secondary schools Latin, Greek, Spanish and German go.

In 48 per cent of primary, 82 per cent of secondary, schools, children share textbooks. More than half of schools have deteriorating fabric: leaking roofs, peeling plaster, dangerous wiring, inadequate decoration.

In 82 per cent of primary, 84 per cent of secondary, schools, parent teacher associations have provided essentials.

funding from those replying to the survey was £1.1 million. Applying that figure throughout England and Wales would give a figure of £4 million.

Parents are now spending money on different essentials. Five years ago it was mainly for audio-visual equipment and the occasional video cassette recorder but now it is microcomputers.

The report concludes: "The overall picture is one of an alarming state of deterioration as schools struggle to maintain standards in the face of

increasing lack of resources". The confederation asks for more money for schools and for ministers and the Prime Minister to find out for themselves the gravity of the problems facing the education service.

"We especially ask the secretaries of state to listen to their independent experts, the Inspectors, the National Economic Development Office and others."

Mr Christopher Patten, Minister of State for Education and Science, said yesterday that the survey's findings on class sizes were not borne out by national figures.

Speaking on the BBC Radio 4 programme *The World at One*, Mr Patten said that the proportion of classes containing more than 30 pupils had fallen by one-half. Money was not being effectively spent in the education service because too many schools were being kept open to meet the wishes of parent-teacher associations.

He added that the Government was spending 16 per cent more on every primary child and 8 per cent more on every secondary child than it was five or six years ago.

The National Union of Teachers said yesterday that the report was an alarming indictment of the Government's complete disregard for the education of Britain's children.

He said: "Parents and teachers are sick and tired of papering over the cracks in our schools. A refusal by Sir Keith Joseph to take this report seriously will be a guarantee of further economic and social decline for the foreseeable future."

## Innovative engine for new Rover saloon

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Some versions of the Rover executive saloon to be launched next summer will have a new British two-litre "lean burn" engine. It is among the most powerful of its type in the world, and will also meet stringent EEC anti-pollution regulations without the aid of expensive catalytic converters.

The clean exhaust will save up to £500 a car and boost Austin Rover's attempts to rebuild a profitable export network in Europe.

The 16-valve, four cylinder M16 engine features a revolutionary new type of fuel injection system which was also designed "in house" and will be manufactured by SU Fuel Systems, Birmingham, another BL company.

It makes Austin Rover the first European car company to use its own fuel injection equipment instead of purchasing it from specialist manufacturers, such as Bosch, West Germany, and Lucas, Birmingham. Previous BL cars have all used Lucas injection.

The engine and fuel system were among the best-kept secrets in the motor industry. They were hurriedly announced at a press conference when the

Austin Rover, learned that his Japanese partner, Honda, was planning to steal a march and launch its version of the jointly designed and manufactured car today, eight months early.

The cars front resembles the present large Rover, a much copied feature. The rear is dominated by a large upward-sloping boot, similar to the Volvo 700.

The general consensus at "sneak" preview was that this was the best looking car yet produced by the state-owned group.

The new Rover will be built at Cowley alongside the Honda version, which will be sold in competition with it. In Japan, Honda will also build both versions, giving Austin Rover a number of manufacturing base for sales.

Jobs at Nissan

Of more than 11,000 men and women who applied for 200 jobs at the Nissan car plant at Washington, Tyne and Wear, 2,000 have been short-listed.

Written tests are being carried out at evening classes for the posts.

## Hospital pays damages for boy's deafness

Nicholas Jeary, aged 15, who became deaf 13 years ago after treatment with an antibiotic spray, was yesterday awarded a large, undisclosed sum of damages in the High Court.

Two weeks ago, Nicholas, who lives with his family at Dykes Farm, Blacklands, near Calne, Wiltshire, won £20,685 damages for scarring from a hot water boiler accident from Mrs Angela Riddiford of The Green, Calne, who ran the play school he was attending and who admitted liability.

After the accident he was taken to the Princess Margaret

hospital at Swindon and treated with an antibiotic drug spray that left him deaf. It took five years for doctors to discover the deafness by which time the "bright boy" had retreated into his shell," Mr Piers Ashworth, QC, for Nicholas, said.

The Wessex Regional Health Authority has admitted liability for his deafness and agreed to pay the damages. The authority is responsible for the hospital where the spray was used on a number of children and "unfortunately, quite a few of them have become deaf," Mr Ashworth said.

## Graphologists 'would catch Philby today'

Kim Philby would have great difficulty getting a job in the private sector today, even if his notorious past and age were not known, prominent businessmen and industrialists have concluded.

A letter of application for a job would be enough to alert many companies to his tendencies for subversive behaviour. His handwriting is, apparently, a give-away.

An increasing number of companies are said to be employing graphologists, to carry out initial vetting of job applicants.

To meet the demand for skilled guidance in the art of telling personality traits from handwriting samples, a course of seminars on the subject is soon to be run at the Institute of Directors.

A group of 17 headhunters, and personnel directors from companies including Rio Tinto, the merchant bankers Samuel Montagu and Granada Television, attended an introductory seminar on graphology at the institute recently.

It was then they were presented with a sample of letter written by Harold "Kim" Philby and, without being told Philby and, without being told the author, asked if they would

without the aid of Shaples.

A large, untidy hand - analysts recommended that employers "keep a firm hand on him": Arthur Scargill.

closing plans with his year

Angular, spaced-out writing - the sign of "a loner who has the makings of a spy": Kim Philby.

Thank you for your kind

A thank-you letter showing signs of "an excellent leader" with a "well-considered and coordinated hand": Sir Winston Churchill.

give him a position of high security in their company.

Most concluded that he was "highly intelligent and very diligent" but were reluctant to give him the high security posting as he was identified as a "loner". One industrialist recognized that "he has the makings of a spy".

Mrs Margaret White, founding member of the British Institute of Graphologists, said: "The wide spacing between

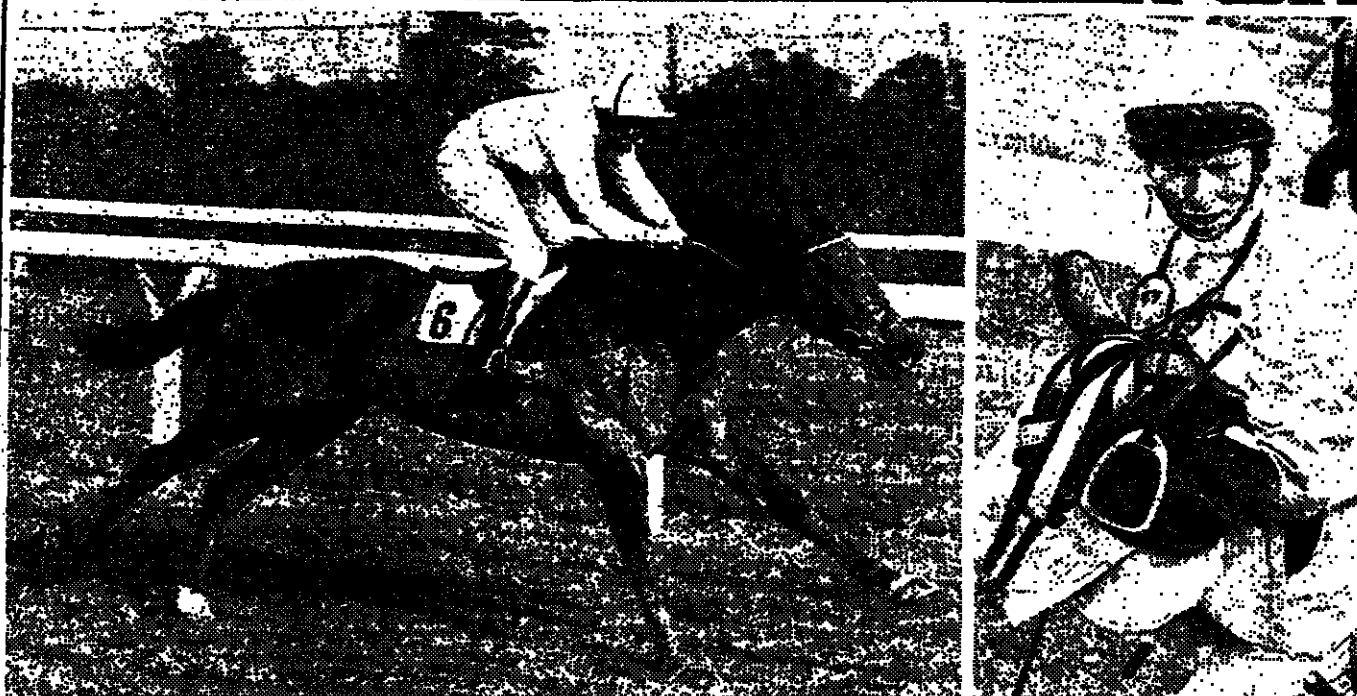
words identifies him as a loner and the angularity of his writing suggests he is very hard".

Other anonymous handwriting samples given to the group included one from Arthur Scargill. Nearly all recognized a need to "keep a firm eye on him".

Asked what retirement present would be appropriate for the author of a sample by the keen artist Sir Winston Churchill, the group recommended "a painting and a box of paints".

## 3RD RACE

### 16 HRH PRINCESS ANNE



The number on the saddlecloth told the story of Princess Anne's excursion to the Chepstow races yesterday. Riding No 6, French Union, and starting at 14-1 -

in the Mademoiselle Stakes for three-year-olds and upwards, the Princess stormed from a long way back in the home straight (left) to

finish sixth, ahead of the favourite, Generalise. The race was won by Dana Mellor on Oryx Minor. Wearing white silks with yellow stars and a white cap, the Princess was cheered on from the grandstand by her son, Peter Phillips. The formalities of weighing in (right) completed, the Princess looked happy and relaxed. When asked how it had

gone, she replied: "You had better ask the trainer". Mr David Nicholson, the trainer, said: "The trainer is delighted". So, too, was the enthusiastic crowd who cheered wildly as the Princess made her late run (Photographs: Julian Herbert).

Report, page 31

## Princess in informal visit to Belfast

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Fresh from her television interview, the Princess of Wales arrived in Northern Ireland yesterday for a visit loaded with symbolism for the province's Unionists at a time when Anglo-Irish negotiations are nearing a climax.

In spite of the unprecedented security surrounding her five-hour visit, her first stop was able to travel into Belfast city centre and walk about in a way no other member of the Royal Family has done since the visit by the Queen in 1966.

On that occasion, a concrete block hit the bonnet of the Queen's car, indicating the danger such visits can entail.

Usually, the Royal Family meet only carefully screened members of the public and travel to areas that are predominantly "loyalist". But the Princess went straight up to crowds of shoppers and office workers.

Inevitably, the manner and timing of the visit that took the Princess from the city centre to Hillsborough Castle, where she met young people, and then on to strongly loyalist east Belfast to a Dr Barnardo's home, led to suspicions that it was designed to reassure Unionists.

The usual tight security for such trips was at its highest level since the Queen's Jubilee Tour in 1977, with roads in the city centre sealed off by Royal Ulster Constabulary and mar-

kmen with binoculars scanning the area from rooftops.

Although the Princess travelled by helicopter and car, avoiding staunchly republican areas, the surprise was that her security advisers allowed her to walk straight to cheering crowds shouting "Well done

Diana", where she talked and shook hands.

During a tour of Ulster University's faculty of art and design, she saw a jewellery, ceramics and fashion exhibition, and one of the more curious sights of her visit, a male student dressed in a tight-fitting skirt with a shirt slit at the back.

While inside the building, the only incident to mar the visit happened when an attempt was made to string an 8ft-long paper poster bearing green shamrocks and the words "Go Home Di" from the top floor of a building opposite the faculty.

It was ripped within less than a minute to resounding cheers from the crowd.

The Princess, wearing a camel, two-piece suit and matching accessories, lunched at Hillsborough Castle, and planted the obligatory tree before travelling to a paediatric unit run by Dr Barnardo's in Belmont, east Belfast.

There have been 24 royal visits since 1977 when trips were resumed after a gap of nine years.

It clearly delighted Unionists, but Mr Danny Morrison, publicity director of Provisional

Sinn Féin, described it as "a royal nip-in to appease loyalists".

Sir Alastair Burnet's interview with the Prince and Princess of Wales, screened on Sunday night, has already been sold to the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Holland, South Africa and Japan, and is the most successful programme ever made by Independent Television News.

● The Royal visit to Washington next month will lead to the unseemly spectacle of American republicans fighting for an invitation to dine with the Prince and Princess of Wales (Trevor Fishlock writes). According to the White House, which is hosting one of the dinners, "everyone and his dog wants to get in".

● The television interview on Sunday night with the Prince and Princess of Wales provided unexpected, late supplies of ammunition to a German popular press fighting hard to think of things to write about the Princess four days after her first visit to West Berlin.

The headline in *Bild Zeitung* was "Charles on Di First she asks me, then she does the opposite".

Where family facilities, such as children's rooms and play areas, are provided, which is at about a third of outlets according to the survey, they are being used more often.

Some 87 per cent in the survey reported selling food and half the bar staff believed they were selling more than five years ago.

There is entertainment at 81 per cent of public houses and 94 per cent at clubs, the more popular forms being gaming machines (45 per cent), darts (41 per cent), juke boxes (33 per cent), pool tables (32 per cent) dominoes and live entertainment (26 per cent) and cards (22 per cent).

## Pubs report less drink, sexism and rowdiness

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

In public houses and clubs people are drinking less, behaving better and more women are going out for a drink and buying a round.

Barmaids and barmen see those as the most significant changes during the past five years, according to a Gallup survey commission by Harp Lager.

Three-quarters of the 1,000 bar staff surveyed said their customers were drinking less or the same, and 44 per cent said that even allowing for inflation the average customer spends less than five years ago. Nearly a half of the staff interviewed reported having to face less rowdy behaviour while two-thirds of those in working men's clubs said disruptive behaviour was less frequent.

Some 79 per cent of the bar staff reported serving more women than in 1980 with more women out for a drink without male companions. Some 84 per cent of the bar staff found that women were more often paying for drinks.

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Restaurateurs

choke on food

guide comments

By Robin Young

Restaurateurs around Britain were choking with fury yesterday over the latest edition of *The Good Food Guide* and its allegations of rapacious pricing policies in the trade.

In his forward to the book, published yesterday, the editor, Mr Drew Smith, accused them of exploiting their staff and including themselves "and their wives and probably their mothers-in-law too" in the share-out of tips. He also said: "The cost of eating out at the top end of the market now beggars belief".

One restaurateur at least was sufficiently incensed by Mr Smith's comments to be talking in terms of litigation while another said that the highest margins in the trade were probably those of fast food operators and cheap ethnic restaurants.

## Airport fire victims to get 'millions'

By Colin Hughes

Survivors of the Manchester airport Boeing 737 fire, and relatives of those who died, are to settle for several million pounds in insurance.

The news coincided with the broadcast last night of a *World in Action* investigation by Granada Television, which claimed that British Airways failed to use recommended repair procedures.

Fifty four people died in the runway blaze, and another died later in hospital, with many of the 131 passengers injured.

Mr Roger Pannone, representing 64 solicitors dealing with 118 passengers, said in Manchester yesterday that insurance underwriters for British Airways, Pratt and Whitney, the engine makers, and Boeing, have been advised to settle within three weeks for "many millions of pounds".

The information about their activities came in confidentially to the RICS from estate agents who are members of the institution.

The results of the survey of 234 agents shows the most activity in house sales since spring 1983 with an average of 55 properties sold by each agent in the quarter ending on September 30.

Of the agents, 99 reported an average price increase of 2 per cent, 12 recorded rises up to 5 per cent, and more than half reported no increase.

The criticism of "unscrupulous" estate agents refers to those in areas where multiple agency occurs, largely in the South East. In the North, multiple agency, where a vendor puts his house on the market with two or more agents, is virtually non-existent and it is confined south of a line from Bristol to King's Lynn, mainly in the big towns and Greater London.

The information about their activities came in confidentially to the RICS from estate agents who are members of the institution.

The group had been given a crash-course in 11 basic measurements which indicate a writer's personality, such as the size, slant, spacing and shape of letters.

Professional graphologists use over one hundred measurements and can take up to a week analysing particularly difficult samples.

According to Mrs White, 400-500 companies are now known to employ graphologists to vet job applicants in Britain. "On the continent as many as one in three companies use graphologists and in Israel every company does," she said.

While admitting that there is no scientific evidence in this country to prove the accuracy of graphology, Mrs White said the institute was working on a series of professional exams which each graphologist would be required to pass.

● A spokeswoman for the Institute of Personnel Managers yesterday advised a cautionary approach of its use to vet job applicants.

"It is up to each employer to decide which selection technique is valid. But we are not aware of any scientific data to back up the validity of graphology," she said.

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LONDON AND NATIONWIDE





# 300 more recruits for Metropolitan Police

## LAW AND ORDER

The Metropolitan Police are to recruit a further 300 officers to bring it up to establishment, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said in a statement to the Commons about the riots in Handsworth, Brixton and Tottenham. Next year a further 50 officers are to be recruited to combat drug trafficking, he said. More riot shields and other defensive equipment is being acquired.

Mr Hurd said: All responsible members of our society will condemn the disgraceful criminal behaviour which has occurred. All responsible members of our society will applaud the courage and dedication of the police in doing their job of maintaining and restoring order in the streets and on the housing estates of our major cities.

The riot at Tottenham was the first occasion in Great Britain when the chief officer of police gave authority for plastic baton rounds to be used if necessary, though in fact they were not used.

Plastic baton rounds and CS gas were made available to the police in Great Britain for public order use following the riots in 1981. They may be used only in the last resort, where conventional methods of policing have been tried and failed, or must from the nature of the circumstances be unlikely to succeed if tried, and where the chief officer judges such action necessary because of the risk of loss of life, or serious injury, or widespread destruction of property.

That threshold was reached at Tottenham. The Commissioner had my full support in making it clear that such weapons would be deployed if similar circumstances arose in the future.

The Government will continue its strong commitment to urban regeneration. The urban programme has more than tripled, from £93 million in 1983-84, and there has been substantial expenditure in all the riot areas. The Department of Employment and the Manpower Services Commission is spending more than £100 million in the partnership areas, and my department plans to spend some £90 million in 1985-86 through Section 11 grants.

We must ensure that these very substantial sums that go, and will continue to go, to inner city areas are spent to the best advantage and

directed to the real needs of the people who live there.

I acknowledge - we all acknowledge - the social problems which exist in these areas, but it is no solution to loot and burn shops which serve the area, or to attack the police. Much violence must be dealt with firmly and effectively and criminal acts punished according to the criminal law. The police should have the support of all of us in striving to maintain order and uphold the law. It is their first priority. It is the Government's also.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, asked what action could be taken to speed up compensation under the Riot Damages Act 1986, and to extend its scope to take account of the loss of income after the riots?

Grave questions arise from these disorders (he went on) and it is essential that the country receive answers on matters of profound national concern. What the Home Secretary has said will allay none of the anxieties. They relate to the relationship of the police and the community in inner cities and elsewhere. There is a question over the use of firearms by the police - (Conservative protest) - over mass unemployment especially among teenagers, over environmental decay and deterioration, and over racial discrimination.

The Home Secretary boasted about funds provided under the urban programme but such funds are only a fraction of the money taken away from these areas in full housing subsidy, reduced rate support grant, and in rate support grant penalties.

It is an absurdity that he boasted of the money going to Handsworth when in this financial year alone, more money was taken from Birmingham in rate support grant penalty than all those sums given over a period of years.

Police inquiries were no substitute for a judicial inquiry because, as Lord Scarman had said, it was necessary before attempting an answer on policing, to understand the social problems.

It was all very well to boast of increases in resources while saying nothing of the terrifying crime wave which the police were increasingly unable to combat.

Mr Hurd said that he shared Mr Kaufman's desire that the 1986 Act should be implemented so as to provide compensation as soon as possible. If lessons were to be learnt from the incidents, they should not be afraid to learn them. The latest

figures showed a reduction in the issue of firearms to the police from 3,800 in 1983 to 2,667 in 1984.

Inner cities (he said) are being to throw away benefits by spending at levels which they know will reduce their grants and throw extra burdens on local people.

I do not accept the case for a long judicial inquiry overshadowing efforts which are being made to learn the lessons which have to be learnt. Such an inquiry would prejudice the possibility of criminal proceedings in some cases. We would get in the way of effective follow-up action.

Mr Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C), Will Mr Hurd assure the House that the Government will give, not only in men but in equipment, full support to ensure the police have and continue to have all the equipment they need to deal with these incidents?

Mr Hurd: It is not just men, it is equipment. The Government will support the police in every way possible.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party: Our prime responsibility is to cure the bitterness on which unfortunately criminality feeds in the inner cities.

Last week, during my visit to Handsworth, I was told work had gone to outside contractors who employed outside workers. We should be looking at schemes that will continue business and employment in the inner cities themselves.

The 1986 Riot Damages Act, in its insurance cover, does not include compensation for loss of business or loss of vehicles.

Mr Hurd: I agree this last point needs to be looked into. I will write to Mr Steel. The point about local labour was made to me in Handsworth. The effect of spending should be geared towards people and not just local conditions.

Sir Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington, C): There are areas with large ethnic minorities where the citizens are well-behaved. Will Mr Hurd make sure their aid is not cut back because they do not cause trouble?

Mr Hurd agreed it would be wrong to assume all areas with ethnic groups had a part in the troubles.

Mr Marilyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab) said Mr Hurd had been firm in suggesting an inquiry was not needed, yet there had been a vast increase in crime and riots which were not factors in the sixties and seventies.

Mr Hurd said inquiries were going to be made into the riots in the last few years.



Hurd: My full support for use of riot weapons

on with those responsible. A coalition had to be built of partners against crime.

Mr Iwan Stanbrook (Orpington, C): It might be dangerous to promote a defensive mentality on the part of the police commanders.

The sight of the police covering behind shields was an offensive and humiliating spectacle.

Mr Hurd: One has to leave operational decisions to those in charge but I agree that the spectacle which we saw at Tottenham was intolerable.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham Perry Barr, Lab) said there were still a dozen claimants from the Tottenham riots in 1981 waiting for compensation under the 1986 Act. He asked Mr Hurd to name one misuse of spending by Birmingham City Council.

Mr Hurd: I am not making any accusations against Birmingham. I am simply saying that all responsible bodies need to look again at how their money is spent to make sure it helps the people who are affected.

He agreed that compensation needed to be paid more quickly.

Sir Peter Emery (Hendon, C): The vast majority in this country expect that the precepts of Anglo-Saxon behaviour and law and order must be maintained whatever ethnic minorities may want. That needs to be said and it is not racist to say so.

Mr Hurd: People who are legally settled here and have made their homes here are entitled to the full protection of the law, and that includes the law against racial discrimination. In return it is right to expect that they co-operate with the institutions designed to protect them, including the police.

Mr Thomas Cox (Tooting, Lab) said Mr Hurd should listen to criticisms by blacks and Asians of methods of police searching when front doors were kicked in and property destroyed.

Mr Hurd: I know of the worry about police methods which he mentions. It is pretty difficult to pin down. I hope his constituents and others will take sensible advantage of the new complaints procedure.

# Attempt at PLO meeting a 'risk for peace' worth taking

## MIDDLE EAST

The Government was deeply disappointed that the planned meeting between Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and a delegation including two members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation had not taken place.

Mr Thatcher, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Commons.

But the attempt to organise the meeting had been a 'risk for peace' which was worth taking and the Government still believed moderates from all sides should be encouraged in the hope of serving the Middle East peace process forward, he said.

Mr Hurd was replying to a private question from Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) about the cancellation of the meeting last week between Sir Geoffrey Howe and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation including Mr Milhem and Bishop Khoury of the PLO.

He said the meeting had been agreed on the understanding that the two Palestinian delegates personally supported a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, and that they were opposed to terrorism and violence.

Our ambassador at Amman (he said) negotiated with the Jordanian Prime Minister the text of the statement which it was agreed would be issued by the delegation after their talks in London.

Unfortunately, after their arrival in London, one of the Palestinian members of the delegation said that he would not accept a specific reference to Israel's right to exist.

We concluded in these circumstances the meeting with the joint delegation could not take place.

Mr Beith: Many people doubted whether it was ever realistic to expect the PLO representatives formally to disavow violence and accept Israel's right to exist.

Mr Hurd: We had received an unequivocal assurance from Amman that all the members of the delegation were prepared to sign the text of this statement and we concluded it would be better to continue our initiative through one channel rather than a number of channels.

He added that although most influence lay with the United States, Jordan and Israel, Britain would do everything it could to help the peace process go forward.

Mr Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C) congratulated the Government for making the degree of recognition which a meeting with the Foreign Secretary would have involved, strictly conditional on the acceptance of violence and the rejection of the appropriate UN resolutions.

Have we not been put absolutely in the clear by King Hussein? It is the PLO which has lost credibility and the Government has behaved absolutely correctly.

Mr Hurd: I thank him. The only people who can take comfort from the failure of these talks are extremists on both sides.

Mr Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Lab): What, in the first place, possessed the Foreign Secretary to think the PLO would denounce violence and guarantee not only was our version of the facts correct but that, in his words, we acted honourably. No pressure was put on us by the Americans whatever.

# The search for closer union in Europe

## HOUSE OF LORDS

The report of the European Communities Committee of the House of Lords on European union, with its theme of an ever-closer union of the peoples of Europe would be a valuable reference work for some time to come, Lady Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in the House of Lords during a debate on the report.

This closer co-operation among member states leading to practical benefits for our people is what membership of the Community is all about (she said) and it is the aim to which successive British Governments have ascribed.

The Government was not afraid of what was to be taken forward so allowing Europe to enjoy the real power and influence that such unity alone could bring.

If the Treaty of Rome was to be implemented it had to be for a purpose. The ends would have to be decided as well as the means. The Government would therefore take a view on any overall package at the end of the process on the basis of what or not it would contribute to practical improvements in the way the European Community worked.

Lord Kearton (Ind), initiating the debate, said the key conclusion of the Committee had been that the Treaty of Rome should be restored to its original intentions.

# Labour attack Archer

The remark of Mr Jeffrey Archer, vice-chairman of the Conservative party, that young people should get up off their backsides and look for work was described as "insulting" by Labour backbenchers during Commons exchanges on unemployment in Wales.

Mr Wyn Roberts, Under Secretary of State for Wales, was urged to dissociate himself from Mr Archer's comments but, said he was sure the vice-chairman had been reported totally out of context.

Mr Ronald Davies (Cardiff, Lab) said that in the Rhymney Valley there were some 1,500 young people registered as job seekers and one vacancy in the careers office.

Mr Edward Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfid and Rhymney, Lab): Mr Archer's comments caused a great deal of anger and bitterness among young people in our communities.

Mr Roberts: I did not hear the vice-chairman's remarks and I have only seen them reported; as often as not, I am sure, reported totally out of context.

# Inquiry into computer firm

## WALES

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, has ordered a full internal investigation by an independent person into the handling of investment in the Parrot Corporation, a company set up about two years ago in Cwmbran, South Wales, to make computer floppy discs.

The Welsh Development Agency was concerned in the setting up of the corporation which ran into cash-flow difficulties this summer, and for which a reinvestment package has been put together.

After several Labour MPs had asked in the Commons for a statement on the matter, Mr Edwards said that the first priority was to ensure the future of the company and of the jobs at stake. His other priority was to ensure that the police investigation of the appropriate actions in the case and that their investigation was not hampered.

I have decided (he said) that there will also be an internal investigation to be carried out by an independent person into the handling of the original investment by the Welsh Development Agency and its subsequent monitoring. I shall report on the details of the inquiry as soon as possible.

I cannot report on the matters still subject to police inquiry, nor on

matters which I have been unable to investigate fully because of the police inquiry.

Mr Jonathan Seyd (Bristol, East, C): Will Labour's investigation be an investment bank do anything to ease long-term unemployment in Wales?

Mr Edwards: No, but the Chancellor was perfectly right in talking about investments, whether by public or private bodies, to say that no system of supervision can be proof against deliberate fraud, so we must ensure that where there is fraud it is uncovered in a timely fashion and the evidence acted on expeditiously. So we were right to see that the police carried out the investigation and that we did not interfere with them.

I am equally sure that it was right for the WDA, and the Welsh Office, and the substantial private sector investors involved, to put together a package of measures to ensure the future of the company.

Mr Barry Jones, Chief Opposition spokesman on Wales, asked who might head the inquiry and whether the matter might go to the Commons Public Accounts Committee. He said he was certain that it will go before the PAC. They will wish to look at it. That has never been in question.

# Labour get debate tomorrow

## SOUTH AFRICA

Criticism of the Prime Minister's stance at the Commonwealth conference came from some MPs in the Commons after Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House, had announced business changes for Wednesday and Thursday.

The business included, on Wednesday, a debate in Opposition time on the crisis in Southern Africa, followed by a debate on the need for an independent judicial enquiry into the recent urban disturbances.

Mr Peter Shore, Opposition spokesman, said that given the Prime Minister's extraordinary and damaging antics at the Commonwealth conference, an apparent change of stance on economic sanctions against South Africa, her agreement with Commonwealth colleagues to impose them last night and her scornful dismissal of the same agreement this morning, could the house have an early statement to clarify the Government's policy?

Mr Biffen said that to describe the Prime Minister's stout championing of national interests as Mr Shore had done showed a certain belatedness but (he said) would inquire into the possibility of an early statement by the Prime Minister.

# Interim board and lodging rules

## SOCIAL SECURITY

Two important changes in regulations on supplementary benefit board and lodging payments were announced in the Commons by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Time limits on the period during which certain unemployed people would not now apply to existing boarders on benefit but only apply to new claimants. He was also taking powers, in addition to the exemptions in the previous regulations, to exempt claimants from the time limits who would otherwise suffer exceptional hardship.

The draft regulations laid today included temporary provisions, which would expire at the end of April 1986, to meet the points made by Mr Justice Mann in the High Court. On July 31 Mr Justice Mann had found that the powers in the 1975 Supplementary Benefits Act were insufficient to make regulations enabling Ministers to determine board and lodging areas and limits.

The Government had lodged an appeal against the judgement and arrangements had been made for an early hearing in the Court of Appeal at the end of November.

There was a need for a sensible interim operation and it was in the general interest that there should be stability during which the outcome of the appeal could be given proper consideration and the review completed.

The regulations clarified the position without in any way prejudicing the outcome of the appeal. The Government hoped in this way to retain spending on board and lodging at the same time protect the interests of genuine claimants.

Mr Michael Meacher, chief Opposition spokesman on Health and Social Security, said: Since these new regulations are still shot through with legal flaws as well as

being morally and socially indefensible, the only honourable course for the Government is to withdraw them and clearly had by an alternative remedy recommended by the Government's own social security advisory committee.

The regulations are not addressed to the cause of the problem, but simply to the knife in the back of those who have already been victimised.

Mr Fowler: There is no question of withdrawing these regulations. The previous position before we acted was insupportable. Payments had increased out of all proportion.

Sir Hugh Rossi (Hornsey and Wood Green, C) said that the answer to the problem was not a standard payment which could disadvantage genuine claimants struggling to provide a good service which they could not do within the standards laid down but to vary between different areas and that each should be able to charge for services provided.

Mr Fowler: That is a position I should like to move to but it is not possible to move to it in one step.

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C): Will he confirm that the reason for the regulations was firm evidence of abuse?

Mr Fowler: Yes. We had a special fraud investigation earlier this year in Euston in which about half those claiming to be resident in particular hotels were no longer there.

Checks were being made in other regions.

Later Mr Fowler said that he would try to make evidence available to the House before next week's debate that there was no evidence of general hardship caused by the policy.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): European Communities (Finance) Bill, remaining stages. Lords (2.30): Administration of Justice Bill, Commons amendments. Oil and Pipelines Bill, third reading.

Clarification In Chellah v Immigration Appeal Tribunal (The Times October 15) it should have been made clear that under the relevant statutory provisions the applicant on the date of application should have been ordinarily resident in the UK for the last five years or more immediately before the commencement of the British Nationality Act 1981.

Mr A. W. Rose asks to point out that he is not Mr Assistant Recorder Rose mentioned in R v Harris (The Times October 18, 1985).

## Arts allocations in December

Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, standing in for the Minister for the Arts (Mr Richard Luce) who was absent through illness, said the minister hoped to make an announcement in December about allocations of resources to regional arts associations for next year.

## Sponsorship of the arts

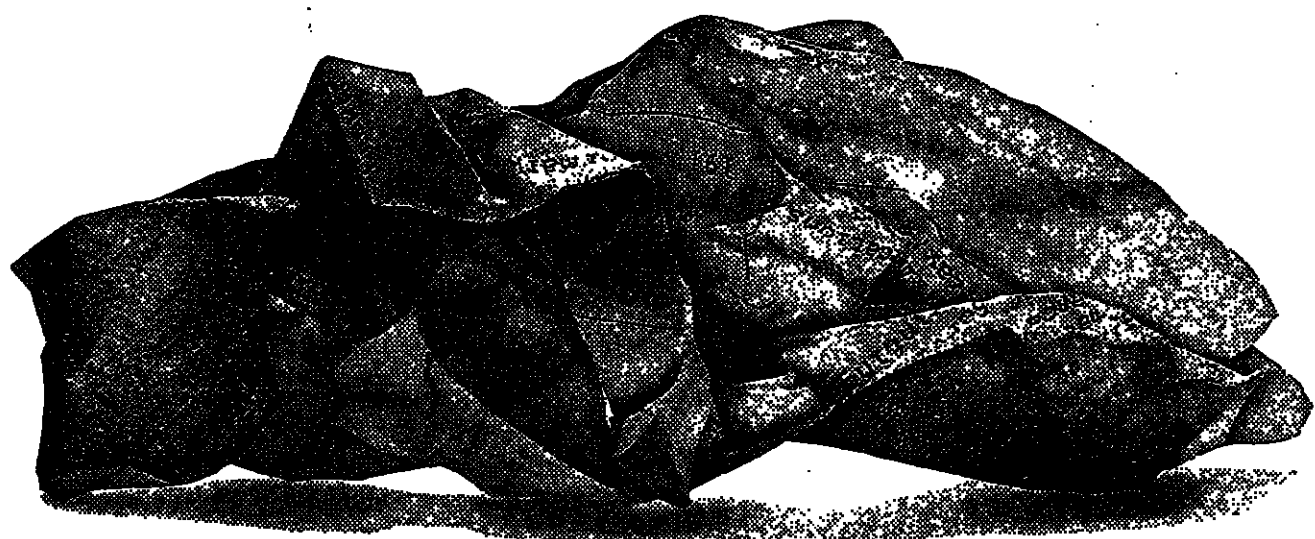
An extra £250,000 would be transferred to the Business Sponsorship Incentive Scheme for the Arts to meet the demand, Sir George Young, Under-Secretary for the Environment, announced during Commons questions.

He said that today 57 more awards in respect of over £200,000

## £200,000 for Welsh site

A further £200,000 urban programme capital allocation would be given to Delyn Borough Council in Wales for developing the Greenfield site for a major European company, following the closure of the Courtlands plant, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, announced in the Commons.

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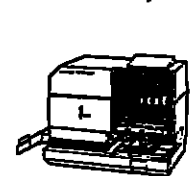


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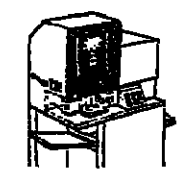
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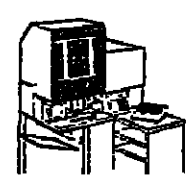
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مكائن النسخ



## Legal wrangles delay scheme to redistribute pharmacies

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government has got itself into a serious legal tangle over a new contract for the redistribution of pharmacies which is said to deprive patients of a better service and the National Health Service of savings of £4 million a year.

The Government spent two years negotiating the contract, which would have closed many small and often uneconomic chemists' shops but provided incentives for new ones to open in rural areas and housing estates.

The aim was to produce a more rational spread of pharmacies, avoiding clustering in high streets and around doctors' surgeries, as a prelude to expanding the services pharmacists provide.

But at the end of last month, the day before the contract was due to start, Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for Health, announced the Government could not go ahead without new legislation.

The decision was taken after threats of legal action by some big chemists, including Underwoods, which would be barred from opening new stores in high streets already supplied with chemists' shops. Some small pharmacies, which under the contract would have been paid £22,000 compensation to close or merge, were also ready to go to court.

Ministers claim they are committed to the new contract and have amended a Bill before Parliament to allow its intro-

duction in Scotland. But chemists' negotiators have been told that legislation to bring in the contract for England and Wales are not possible before 1987.

Yesterday, however, the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee announced that it was to take legal action to introduce the contract.

Mr Alan Smith, the committee's chief executive, said: "Our lawyers' advice is that ministers do have the powers to bring the contract in."

"We are therefore writing to Mr Hayhoe asking him to join us in taking the issue to judicial review to see if the powers are there. If he will not, however, we will apply for a judicial review unilaterally."

Although some small chemists have claimed that 2,000 pharmacies would go out of business if the contract were introduced, the negotiating committee said closures would amount to 600 over two years.

At present there were no controls over where new pharmacies opened and Mr Smith said there were now 700 registered pharmacies queuing up to open new shops, which this year were growing at four times the rate of last.

"If the contract is delayed two years and that number open it will cost the NHS another £7 million a year on top of the £4 million it could be saving from the new contract," he said.

## Mother 'buried in garden'

A judge yesterday urged a man to get himself legally represented after he denied failing to report the death of his aged mother and burying her in his garden.

Judge Beezley, sitting at Norwich Crown Court, told William Cox, aged 63, of Station Road, Littleport, Cambridgeshire: "This is a serious case and you may possibly face many years' imprisonment. I urge you to apply for legal aid."

But Mr Cox, partially deaf after serving in the Royal Artillery, said: "I think I can understand what is going on. If you will permit it, I would prefer to represent myself." He denied two charges of obstruct-

ing the Cambridgeshire coroner between October 1972 and March 1983, by failing to report the death of Eliza Cox and preventing her burial, first by sealing the body in the bedroom of a house at Main Road, Littleport, then by burying it in his garden.

He admitted two specimen charges of obtaining money from the Department of Health and Social Security by deception, both involving £38.28 in his mother's pension payment, although Mr Graham Parkins, for the prosecution, said £29,305.3 was involved altogether. The case was adjourned to December 16 at King's Lynn Crown Court.

## Nine MPs who left the House of Commons speechless



Those who did not make a speech in the Commons for 18 months (from left) are: Mr Harry Gourlay, Mr Tom Normanton, Mr Robert Edwards, Mr James White, Mr Michael Allison, Mr Ian Campbell, Mr Hugh McCartney, Mr John Blackburn and Mr Jack Aspinwall. Mr Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin MP who is also on the list, has yet to take his seat at Westminster.

Only one backbench MP in three made regular interventions in the Commons last year. In the second of two articles Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent, identifies the silent and the speechless.

Seven MPs failed to record one spoken word in the Commons chamber in the 18 months after the June 1983 election, according to the official series of indices to the Hansard report of parliamentary debates.

Although five of the MPs put written questions for answer by ministers, they did not make one speech or even put one oral question, according to the indices.

Mr Gerry Adams, the Provisional Sinn Féin MP for Belfast West, has failed to take his seat at Westminster, but Mr James White, Labour MP for Glasgow Pollok, is not mentioned in the indices at all for the sittings up to the end of last year, which indicates that he did not make a speech or put a question, written or oral, for 18 months.

The other five backbench MPs, who did table written questions but failed to say anything in the chamber for 18 months, were: Mr Michael Allison, Selby, Conservative, the Prime Minister's parliamentary private secretary; Mr Jack Aspinwall, Wansdyke, Conservative; Mr Ian Campbell, Dumbarton, Labour; Mr Hugh McCartney, Clydebank and Milngavie, Labour; and Mr Tom Normanton, Cheadle, Conservative.

But an analysis of Hansard carried out by The Times also discloses two MPs who were silent in the chamber for the whole of last year; three other MPs who failed to make a speech in the 18 months after the election; three MPs who are not recorded as having made a speech in the chamber last year; one MP who made a one-min-

ute speech in the 18 months following the election; and a new Conservative MP who made his maiden speech in July 1983 and then waited for more than a year before making two three-minute speeches last November.

The two MPs who were silent in the chamber for the whole of last year, according to Hansard, were Sir Julian Ridsdale, Harwich, Conservative, and Mr John Spence, Rydale, Conservative. Sir Julian is recorded as having asked one written question on July 26.

The three MPs who failed to make a speech in the 18 months after the election were: Mr John Blackburn, Dudley West, Conservative; Mr Robert Edwards, Wolverhampton South East, Labour; and Mr Harry Gourlay, Kirkcaldy, Labour. Mr Blackburn asked two oral questions and one written question last year.

The three MPs who failed to make a speech in the chamber last year were: Mr John Gilbert, Dudley East, Labour; Mr

Walter Harrison, Wakefield, Labour; and Sir Philip Holland, Gedling, Conservative.

Mr Mark Wollison, the Conservative MP for Sevenoaks, asked 10 written and three oral questions last year, but Hansard records that after the June 1983 election he made only one one-minute speech in the chamber, on February 22, 1984, in the 18 months to the end of last year.

Another Conservative MP, Mr John Watts, Slough, is recorded as having made a 10-minute maiden speech on July 8, 1983. According to Hansard he did not make another speech in the chamber until November 23 last year, a three-minute contribution to a debate on the Warnock report, followed by another three-minute speech on the social security Bill on November 25. Last year, Mr Watts asked 17 written questions, three oral questions and presented a petition on human embryos - in addition to his two three-minute speeches.

In The Times survey of Commons chamber contributions in the last Parliament, published on January 18, 1983, Mr Gourlay and Mr White were among the MPs listed as having failed to make a speech in the 1981-82 parliamentary session. They are both retiring at the next election.

The chamber of the Commons is not the only forum for parliamentary activity. MPs may work on standing committees, vetting legislation, and on select committees, which monitor the work of government departments. Some have European and international commitments. Mr Normanton, for example, is a member of the European Parliament for Cheshire East.

The work of an MP also includes constituency activity, holding surgeries and dealing with constituents' cases directly through correspondence with ministers, and party political work. Failure to make speeches in the chamber, or to ask

Commons questions, does not mean that an MP is failing to attend to constituency or other parliamentary work.

A breakdown of Hansard records for the chamber also gives no indication of an MP's attendance in the chamber for Question Time, debates or votes. Neither does it take into account whether an MP has been too ill to carry out the fullest possible parliamentary activity.

However, there is increasing concern at Westminster that the chamber is being neglected, that government ministers are not being subjected to the fullest possible scrutiny, and that a key element of democratic accountability is being wasted.

Sessional Index, Part 1, Parliamentary Debate Commons, June 15, 1983, December 22, 1983 (Stationery Office, £21). Fortnightly Indices to the Daily Parts and Weekly Hansards, January 16, 1984, December 21, 1984 (Stationery Office, 18 pence, 96p to £2.50). Concluded

## Campaign to fight Sunday trading

Britain's small shopkeepers have launched a national campaign to try to stop government plans for Sunday trading.

The introduction of a Bill to remove all restrictions on shop trading hours is expected to be announced during the Queen's speech to Parliament on November 6, the National Chamber of Trade said yesterday.

The Chamber, which represents 200,000 businesses, has joined with trade unions and other organizations to develop "a united opposition to a Sunday trading free-for-all".

A Chamber spokesman said that Sunday opening would affect every sector of the community.

He said that the move would also increase costs, facing many small shops to close.

## British Library expansion Five-year plan to boost income

The British Library must develop a more aggressive marketing strategy to survive, Sir Frederick Dainton, chairman of the British Library Board, said yesterday.

Outlining the library's first five-year strategic plan, Sir Frederick said it was vital to increase revenue from the library's sales services by 5 per cent a year and attract outside business. "We want the publishers to come to us to reproduce part of our treasures. We invite the business world to use our information resources," he said.

The library could not afford to be out of date with its acquisitions or fall behind in the rapid information technology changes.

Sir Frederick said that the present 2 per cent yearly increase in government grant aid to the library was not enough to

preserve the national research collection and help to maintain the library's expanding services in Britain and overseas.

He said the government grant of just over £48 million last year and an expected £49 million in the coming year was simply not enough. The board, said Sir Frederick, had asked the Government for £51 million grant aid this year.

"If the Government is serious about a knowledge-based society, funding must be increased," Sir Frederick said.

Sir Frederick emphasized that the library would also adopt a corporate approach to collection management and it has appointed its first corporate marketing manager, Mr Michael Hilton, aged 39.

The five-year plan, Advancing With Knowledge, concerns the commitment to the building of a new library at St Pancras and the provision of the most

comprehensive national research collection possible.

Strategies involve developing advanced systems for electronic document delivery and storage, and a new on-line bibliographic system.

Sir Frederick said that coherent national policies must be developed for the collection of non-book material, such as electronic publications, films, sound recordings and videos.

It will provide 185 miles of shelving and will feature an automated book request and general catalogue of printed books. A new science reference library will bring together collections presently housed in three buildings and many warehouses. Six main construction phases are planned and the Government is expected to announce the second phase later this year.

## New Forest commoners admit neglect of animals

From Hugh Clayton, Lyndhurst

New Forest commoners admitted yesterday that some holders of ancient grazing rights neglected their animals. "Pressure is being put on them to behave," Mr Bert Stride, a former vice-chairman of the Commons Defence Association, said.

Pony sales there had become a target for animal rights activists who said the animals were abused and not fed properly when grass supplies are inadequate in winter. "People have set fire to our auctioneers' huts," Mr Stride said.

Mrs Joan Wright, chairman of the Forest Pony and Cattle Breeders' Society, said the ancient rights system of control by "venderers" and "agisters" was used to find neglected animals. "We know that our house is not absolutely in order. We intend to ensure that it becomes so."

The 75,000 acres of the forest between Southampton and Bournemouth contain about 2,000 ponies, 1,500 deer and 1,000 cattle. About 10 deer a season are taken by the New Forest buckhounds, while about a hundred die after being hit by vehicles on unfenced roads.

The forest's 1,000 commoners and other rural workers were dismayed by a survey commissioned by opponents of field sports in which two-thirds of the hunting of forest deer with hounds.

Mr Peter Barfoot, organizer of a private counter-survey of the 1,000 people who make a living from the forest, said: "The private poll, taken by volunteers and released yesterday, showed more than 90 per cent against a hunting ban in the forest."



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# According to the Japanese, Wales is the centre of Europe.

The masters of the economic miracle know a good place for industry when they see one.

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They elected to settle in a land of great beauty, where their families could live and breathe freely.

Here's the story of how one company was swayed (from the Survey on Wales, in *The Economist*, February 1985):

'While boosters for the other regions talked incessantly about rates of return and infrastructure improvements, capital grants and so on, the Welsh Development Agency people took the Sony men and their families to see a rugby match, to visit schools and museums, and to look at houses.'

"They," says Mr Tokita, Director of Sony, "had the right priorities."

This of course was the icing on the cake. The Japanese were anything but indifferent to all those capital grants and rates of return.

But then, they were already more than satisfied.

They had the WDA, putting together investment packages from the maze of grants and incentives, and from sources of private finance.

And they had the Welsh on their side, in a textbook case of industrial harmony.

'The identification of the workers with the company and their pride in its products are palpable to anybody who visits a Japanese plant in Wales.' (From the same *Economist* survey.)

Now surely if the Japanese can find a gold mine in the Principality, your own company might well benefit from a little prospecting. After all, you haven't even got as far as go.

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هكزامن الاصل



## South Africa under pressure

## Commonwealth warning of tougher measures if Pretoria does not reform

From Nicholas Ashford, Nassau

Like the curate's egg, the accord on South Africa agreed by Commonwealth leaders late on Sunday, contains something for everyone. All the key figures involved in stitching together the final package can claim to have achieved what they had been battling for in the previous five days.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher managed to keep the dreaded word "sanctions" out of the final document. Admittedly, she had to accept the inclusion of one or two unpalatable new "measures", such as curbs on government funding for trade missions to South Africa. But, as she jubilantly pointed out, these were "tiny" compared with the full and mandatory sanctions other Commonwealth countries had been urging on her.

In return for this concession, she persuaded the others to emphasize the need for "a suspension of violence on all sides", she intended to be directed mainly at the African National Congress (ANC), which had announced that it was stepping up its guerrilla war in South Africa.

President Kaunda of Zambia was the author of a list of five steps the Commonwealth has urged South Africa to take, such

as dismantling apartheid, lifting the state of emergency, releasing Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader, from jail, and ending the ban on the ANC.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, can claim credit for devising the mechanism that made agreement possible - the decision to set up a group of eminent persons to encourage dialogue between the South African Government and representative black leaders.

He also managed to get Mrs Thatcher to agree to a timetable for tougher action if South Africa makes no progress towards meeting Commonwealth demands within six months. Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister of Canada, was responsible for drawing up the list of "core measures" the Commonwealth has agreed to implement, all but three of which are already enforced by Britain.

If there was one clear victory it was the Commonwealth as an organization. "This is a good moment for the Commonwealth," said a beaming Sir Shridath Ramphal, the Secretary-General.

The Agreement represents a classic example of Commonwealth consensus-building. Until late on Sunday, Mrs Thatcher was still refusing to

accept the inclusion of any new coercive measures in the declaration. But when the "gang of four" (Australia, Canada, India and Zambia) who had done most of the negotiating with her, said that the rest of the Commonwealth was prepared to go ahead without Britain, she agreed to compromise.

"It was worth paying that price to keep the Commonwealth together," she conceded later. And, as Mr Mulroney observed, an agreement that excluded Britain, the country with the biggest investment in South Africa, would have been worthless.

The accord commits all Commonwealth members, Britain included, to a process which it will be hard to stop. Next April, a monitoring group of seven Commonwealth nations (Britain, Australia, Bahamas, Canada, India, Zambia and Zimbabwe), will meet to decide if South Africa is making "adequate progress".

If it is not, they will have to decide whether to take additional steps, such as severing air links, banning new investment, or stopping imports of agricultural products.

Kenneth Fleet, page 23  
Communiqué text, page 9  
Leading article, page 17



Port Elizabeth's Watson brothers, Gavin (left), 'Cheeky' and Ronnie, whose clothing shop had been exempted from a black boycott, in front of their home, wrecked by a bomb.

## Cautious relief in Johannesburg

From A Correspondent, Johannesburg

Cautious relief was expressed by South African political and business leaders yesterday at the decision by the Commonwealth conference to accept Britain's compromise plan.

It was made clear, however, that intervention by a Commonwealth committee would

not be welcomed.

A semi-official radio commentary prepared for broadcast today said the Commonwealth committee would be seen as an act of intervention in the political process.

The Commonwealth compromise falls short of the selective embargoes already

imposed by President Reagan (Christopher Thomas writes).

Although there was no immediate official reaction, American officials see the Nassau decision as greatly influenced by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and think it vindicates the limited punitive action already taken by Washington.

## Tacit truce facing threat from Contras

By Colin Harding

A tacit truce exists between Sandinista troops and Miskito Indian guerrillas on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, according to a leading MP from the area. But the US-backed "Contras" from the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) are moving into the region in an attempt to sabotage the *de facto* ceasefire.

Señor Ray Hooker, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly, said in London that more than one third of the Miskitos removed from their homes on the Coco river during Army operations against the "Contras" had now returned. The Government in Managua is supplying food and medicines, and hostility which grew between the Sandinistas and the people of the Atlantic coast after the 1979 revolution may eventually be overcome.

The leaders of the two main anti-Sandinista Indian groups, Señor Steadman Fagoth of Misura and Señor Brooklyn Rivera of Misurata, both oppose the ceasefire, but Señor Rivera may be willing to resume talks with Managua at the end of this month, Señor Hooker said. Both leaders have been invited to discussions on a statute of autonomy for the Atlantic coast which would grant the region its own assembly and control over its natural resources. Señor Hooker, who is involved in drawing up the statute, said it should be ready by the end of next year.

## Tunnel cave-in kills gold prospectors

Davao (AFP) - At least 30 Filipino gold prospectors were killed, another 30 injured and 20 unaccounted for when makeshift tunnels collapsed after heavy rains in a gold-mining site outside the town of Monkayo, officials said.

## Cheese check

Vienna (AP) - Some Austrian cheeses were taken off the shelves because they contain diethylene glycol, a toxic component of anti-freeze used to doctor hundreds of brands of Austrian wine, the Health Ministry said. The chemical apparently was transferred to the cheese from its plastic wrapping.

## Soldier's plight

Delhi (AP) - A dismissed soldier poured petrol over his head and set himself on fire near the presidential palace in protest against being denied a pension. He was rushed to a hospital with third-degree burns.

## Sagan returns

Paris (AP) - French author Francois Sagan, who became ill with altitude sickness in Bogotá, Colombia, is in the intensive care ward of Val de Grace military hospital here after returning to Paris on a special plane, her brother said.

## UDF 16 accused of plotting revolution

From A Correspondent, Johannesburg

Plans to make South Africa ungovernable so that its white-ruled Government could be replaced by a "communist socialist" regime had been drawn up by the African National Congress, the South African Communist Party and the South African Congress of Trade Unions, it was alleged in the Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg yesterday.

Opening the State's case against 16 members of the United Democratic Front, Mr Nick Gey van Pittius, state counsel, said a revolutionary alliance had been formed to overthrow the Government and the ANC was regarded as its leader. The alliance had decided that the population, which had been apathetic, must first be made politically aware.

Mr Gey van Pittius alleged that the 16 accused had expressed the aims of the alliance in songs and slogans to rally the people. He suggested this was part of a process of promoting underground structures and united mass action to create a revolutionary climate favourable to the ANC.

The accused include two co-presidents of the UDF, Mrs Albertina Sisulu, aged 67, and Mr Archie Gumede, aged 70.

## Australian unions act on apartheid

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Australian trade unionists yesterday started a week of action against South Africa with measures which will disrupt mail, air travel, shipping and telecommunications between the two countries.

Postal workers said they had imposed an indefinite ban on mail to and from South Africa, and South African Airways is being prevented from making its one flight to Australia this week.

Mr Bill Richardson, assistant secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), said the protest was only the start of a range of anti-apartheid activities by union members.

The Government has not reacted, but Mr John Howard, the Opposition leader, condemned the action as an abuse of union power and said the communications ban would cause distress to many thousands of Australians with relatives in South Africa and would harm Australian companies.

Mr Rob Arndt, federal secretary of the postal workers union, said it had been decided that a week's mail ban was insufficient although some officials thought an indefinite ban too long.

Telecommunications technicians have imposed an indefinite ban on installing and repairing equipment used by South African diplomats.

The Government already has introduced a limited package of sanctions against Pretoria but Mr Simon Crean, the ACTU president, will lead a delegation to Canberra in the next week to urge tougher measures.

## Labour angry at Thatcher

Mrs Thatcher's handling of the Commonwealth Conference had come under fierce attack from Labour MPs in the Commons yesterday.

The Shadow leader of the house, Mr Peter Shore, accused her of "extraordinary and damaging antics". But the Leader of the

Mrs Sisulu, wife of Walter Sisulu, who is in jail with the former ANC leader Nelson Mandela, was celebrating her birthday and when she took her place in the dock was greeted with a verse of "Happy Birthday to you" by fellow defendants.

The other accused are Mr Mewa Ramgobin, aged 52, Mr Chandendero Sewpersad, aged 43, Mr Macroogh Naidoo, aged 53, Dr Esop Jassat, aged 52, Dr Aubrey Mokoena, aged 52, Mr Ephraim Curtis Nkondo, aged 56, Mr Devadas Paul David, aged 40, the Reverend Frank Chikane, aged 34, Mr Cassim Saloojee, aged 49, Professor Ismail Mohammed, aged 54, who are all leaders of organizations linked to the UDF, and four members of the South African Allied Workers' Union, Mr Sisa Njikelani, aged 29, Mr Sam Kikine, aged 36, Mr Isaac Mgonono, aged 36, and the union chairman, Mr Thozamile Govea.

Most of the accused were arrested more than a year ago and were held in custody until June, when they were allowed bail, but with their movements and activities restricted. Yesterday was the first day of the trial proper.

## Britain to withdraw trade aid

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The British Overseas Trade Board is withdrawing support for trade missions and other ventures aimed at increasing trade with South Africa after the new sanctions agreement.

South Africa has been one of the most lucrative markets for British companies, and trade missions supported by the board had been running at a high level. Two trade fairs in South Africa last year cost £79,966 and involvement in a dozen trade missions from various sectors of industry and commerce cost another £106,000. This compares with the board's total spending supporting trade ventures abroad of £45 million.

Last year's spending on South African trade ventures was rather lower than the previous year but there have been fluctuations from year to year, partly because of cutbacks in the board's overall spending.

The board last night said it had "under consideration" the position of more than half a dozen trade ventures already planned for the next few months. A trade mission from the Dundee and Tayside Chamber of Commerce and Industry is due to leave for South Africa at the end of next week.

Next month a joint venture is planned for a process packaging and printing exhibition, with trade missions also due out from the Engineering Industries Association and the Leeds Chamber of Commerce. Early next year another four trade missions were planned.

No big loans to South Africa are in the pipeline, according to the Bank of England. Under the new accord government loans to South Africa are banned.

Commons, Mr John Biffen, praised the Prime Minister for her "stout championing of national interests", when he replied to critics.

The row blew up after Mr Biffen had told MPs that tomorrow there would be a half-day, Labour-initiated debate on "the crisis in southern Africa".

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## The Commonwealth communiqué

# Leaders outline the five steps to freedom for people of South Africa

The following is the text of the Commonwealth accord on Southern Africa agreed at the conference in Nassau. We consider that South Africa's continuing refusal to dismantle apartheid, its illegal occupation of Namibia, and its aggression against its neighbours constitute a serious challenge to the values and principles of the Commonwealth. At New Delhi, we expressed the view that only the eradication of apartheid and the establishment of majority rule on the basis of free and fair elections by all the people in a united and non-fragmented South Africa can lead to a just and lasting solution of the explosive situation prevailing in Southern Africa.

We are united in the belief that reliance on the range of pressures adopted so far has not resulted in the fundamental changes we have sought over many years. The repression, crisis, and intensified that apartheid in South Africa means now if a greater tragedy is to be averted and that concerned pressure must be brought to bear to achieve that end. We consider that the situation calls for urgent practical steps.

2. We therefore call on the authorities in Pretoria for the following steps to be taken in a genuine manner, and as a matter of urgency:

(a) Declare that the system of apartheid will be dismantled and specific and meaningful action taken in fulfilment of that intent. (b) Terminate the existing state of emergency. (c) Release immediately, and unconditionally, Nelson Mandela and all others imprisoned and detained for their opposition to apartheid. (d) Establish political freedom and specifically lift the existing ban on the African National Congress and other political parties. (e) Initiate, in the context of a process of dialogue across lines of colour, politics and religion, with a view to establishing a non-racial and representative government.

## 'The dreadful prospect of violence'

3. We have agreed on a number of measures which have as their rationale impressing on the authorities in Pretoria the compelling urgency of dismantling apartheid and erecting the structure of democracy in South Africa. The latter, in particular, demands a process of dialogue involving the true representatives of the majority black population of South Africa. We believe that we must do all we can to assist that process, while recognizing that the forms of political settlement in South Africa are for the people of that country - all the people - to determine.

4. To this end, we have decided to establish a small group of eminent Commonwealth persons to encourage through all practicable ways the evolution of that necessary process of political dialogue.

We are not unmindful of the difficulties such an effort will encounter, including the possibility of initial rejection by the South African authorities, but we believe it to be our duty to leave nothing undone that might contribute to

peaceful change in South Africa, and avoid the dreadful prospect of violent conflict that looms over South Africa, threatening people of all races in the country, and the peace and stability of the entire southern African region. 5. We are asking the President of Zambia, and the Prime Ministers of Australia, Bahamas, Canada, India, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe, to develop with the Secretary General dialogue in South Africa. We would look to the group of eminent persons to seek to facilitate the processes of dialogue referred to in paragraph 2 above and by all practical means to advance the fulfilment of the objectives of this accord.

## 'A programme to enlarge peace hopes'

6. For our part, we have as an earnest of our opposition to apartheid reached accord on a programme of common action as follows:

(1) We declare the Commonwealth support for the strictest enforcement of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 418 and 558 and commit ourselves to prosecute violators to the fullest extent of the law.

(2) We reaffirm the Gleneagles Declaration of 1977, which called upon Commonwealth members to take every practicable step to discourage sporting contacts with South Africa.

(3) We agree upon, and commend to other governments, the adoption of the following further economic measures against South Africa, which have already been adopted by a number of member countries:

(a) A ban on all government loans to the Government of South Africa and its agencies;

(b) A readiness to take unilaterally what action may be possible to preclude the imports of kruggerands; (c) No government funding for trade missions to South Africa or for participation in exhibition and trade fairs in South Africa;

(d) A ban on the sale and export of computer equipment capable of use by South Africa's military forces, police or security forces; (e) A ban on new contracts for the sale and export of nuclear goods, materials and technology to South Africa;

(f) A ban on the sale of oil to South Africa;

(g) A strict and rigorously controlled embargo on imports of arms, ammunition, military vehicles and paramilitary equipment from South Africa;

(h) An embargo on all military cooperation with South Africa; and (i) Discouragement of all cultural and scientific events except where these contribute towards the ending of apartheid or have no possible role in promoting it.

7. It is our hope that the process and measures we have agreed upon will help to bring about concrete progress towards the objectives stated above in six months. The heads of government mentioned in paragraph 5 above, or their representatives, will then meet to review the situation. If in their opinion, adequate progress has not been made within this period, we agree to consider the adoption of further measures. Some of us, would, in that event, consider the following steps among others:

(a) A ban on air links with South Africa;

(b) A ban on new investment or reinvestment of profits earned in South Africa;

(c) A ban on the import of agricultural products from South Africa;

(d) The termination of double taxation agreements with South Africa;

(e) The termination of all government assistance to investment in, and trade with, South Africa;

(f) A ban on all government procurement in South Africa;

(g) A ban on government contracts with majority-owned South African companies;

(h) A ban on the promotion of tourism to South Africa.

8. Finally, We agree that should all of the above measures fail to produce the desired results within a reasonable period, further effective measures will have to be considered. Many of us have either taken or are prepared to take measures which go beyond those listed above, and each of us will pursue the objectives of this accord in all the ways and through all appropriate fora open to us. We believe, however, that in pursuing this programme jointly, we enlarge the prospects of an orderly transition to social, economic and political justice in South Africa, and peace and stability in the southern African region as a whole.

Adopted at Lyford Cay, October 20, 1985 at 9 pm Eastern Standard Time (2am BST Monday).



Subramanian Chandrakanthan, a Tamil separatist guerrilla leader held by Sri Lankan security forces, showing reporters how he used an AK47 rifle before his arrest.

## March 'for bread and work'

# Athens crippled by strike against austerity measures

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Life in Athens and 17 other Greek cities was thrown out of gear yesterday as unions staged a 24-hour strike to press the Government to revoke austerity measures imposed in an effort to rescue the country's economy from bankruptcy.

Thousands of workers, employees and shopkeepers, after holding protest rallies, marched through the centre of Athens chanting "No to austerity - we want bread and work".

In a resolution delivered to the Ministry of National Economy and Parliament, they urged the Government to seek solutions that would not be so painful for the working people.

The austerity programme, centred on 15 per cent devaluation, includes curbs on imports, wage restraints, higher taxes and cuts in public spending. A presidential decree last Friday made unauthorized salary increases in the private sector a punishable offence until the end of 1987.

Yesterday's strikes crippled the Athens transport system and halted all activity at Athens airport. With rare exceptions, all shops remained closed as did petrol stations, restaurants, banks, factories and workshops. The strike was joined by hospital doctors, teachers and public utilities. Support came from the association of Greek singers.

The strike in 18 cities, involving about 900,000 workers, was the first in a series of demonstrations planned this week by trade unions and political parties to compel the Socialist Government to confess the failure of its economic policies barely five months after winning its second general election on a platform promising the Greeks "even better days".

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, who expelled from his party eight trade union leaders who had opposed his options, made it clear that his Government would not be deflected from its course. But he blamed the crisis on policies pursued in the past 30 years and a world economic recession.

He is resisting, however, opposition pressure for an economic debate in Parliament, so much so that he chose to impose the wage freeze by decree rather than by ordinary legislation to avoid Parliament.

New Democracy, the Conservative opposition party, which is organizing an anti-government rally in central Athens tonight, had decided to table a motion of censure to force the Prime Minister to turn up in Parliament and argue his case rather than resort to his favourite practice of television monologues.

## Red Cross 'hot line' for reporters

Geneva - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has set up its "hot line" to help journalists who find themselves in serious difficulties, such as detention, during dangerous assignments and have no diplomatic representative able to intervene on their behalf (Alan McGregor writes).

Their families, newspapers or professional organizations can now draw the ICRC's attention to their circumstances by contacting its press division hot line.

## Prisoners' break

Honiara, Solomon Islands (Reuters) - All 149 prisoners in Honiara's central jail escaped after prison guards opened the gates in protest at disciplinary action against colleagues, police said. Among those who walked out of prison were six men serving life sentences for murder.

## Silent protest

Wellington (Reuters) - The ketch Vega, the sole remaining member of the fleet protesting at France's nuclear testing in the South Pacific, has been silenced by a radio fault, Greenpeace said.

## Crash jet fault

Tokyo (AFP) - A bulkhead of a Japan Air Lines passenger aircraft which crashed killing 329 people had had metal fatigue for six years, a television report said, quoting Transport Ministry accident investigators.

## Lisbon terror trial told of secret workers' army

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Lieutenant-Colonel Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho, a hero of Portugal's 1974 revolution, who is on trial on terror charges, admitted setting up a project which included recruiting a secret army "to carry the workers to power".

Otelo, as he is known, is charged with organizing the FP25 terror group, which has carried out 14 killings and assaults, bombings and bank robberies since 1980.

He denied, however, that the FP25 terrorists were part of the plan, but told the court they had infiltrated his organization, and said some of his own men may have carried out acts of violence "which went beyond the limits prescribed by the political-military leadership of the project".

Otelo began planning in 1978 "to prepare the terrain for resistance against the return to fascism".

The organization had four divisions. The first was a legal political one, the Forces of Popular Unity (FUP), made up of seven radical left-wing parties.

The prosecution charges that FUP acted as a front, to obtaining funds from Libya and

other sources, it also allegedly arranged "safe houses" and false documents.

Otelo said its purpose was to unite left-wing parties to capture votes for him in the 1980 presidential election.

The second division was Otelo himself, who was to use his national and international image as a hero to lend the project respectability.

The third division was ECA - the Civilian Armed Structure - which was to recruit workers for the revolutionary army. The prosecution says ECA attacked people, set bombs and meted out revolutionary "justice" to traitors under the name of FP25.

The fourth division, known by the name Barracks, was to recruit regular military personnel as the nucleus of the revolutionary army.

Otelo admitted having "dozens of closed-door meetings with thousands of workers around the country". He took copious notes, which are being used as evidence against him. He claimed that there is no reference to the FP25 terrorists in the notes.

## 'The Times' for Hungary

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

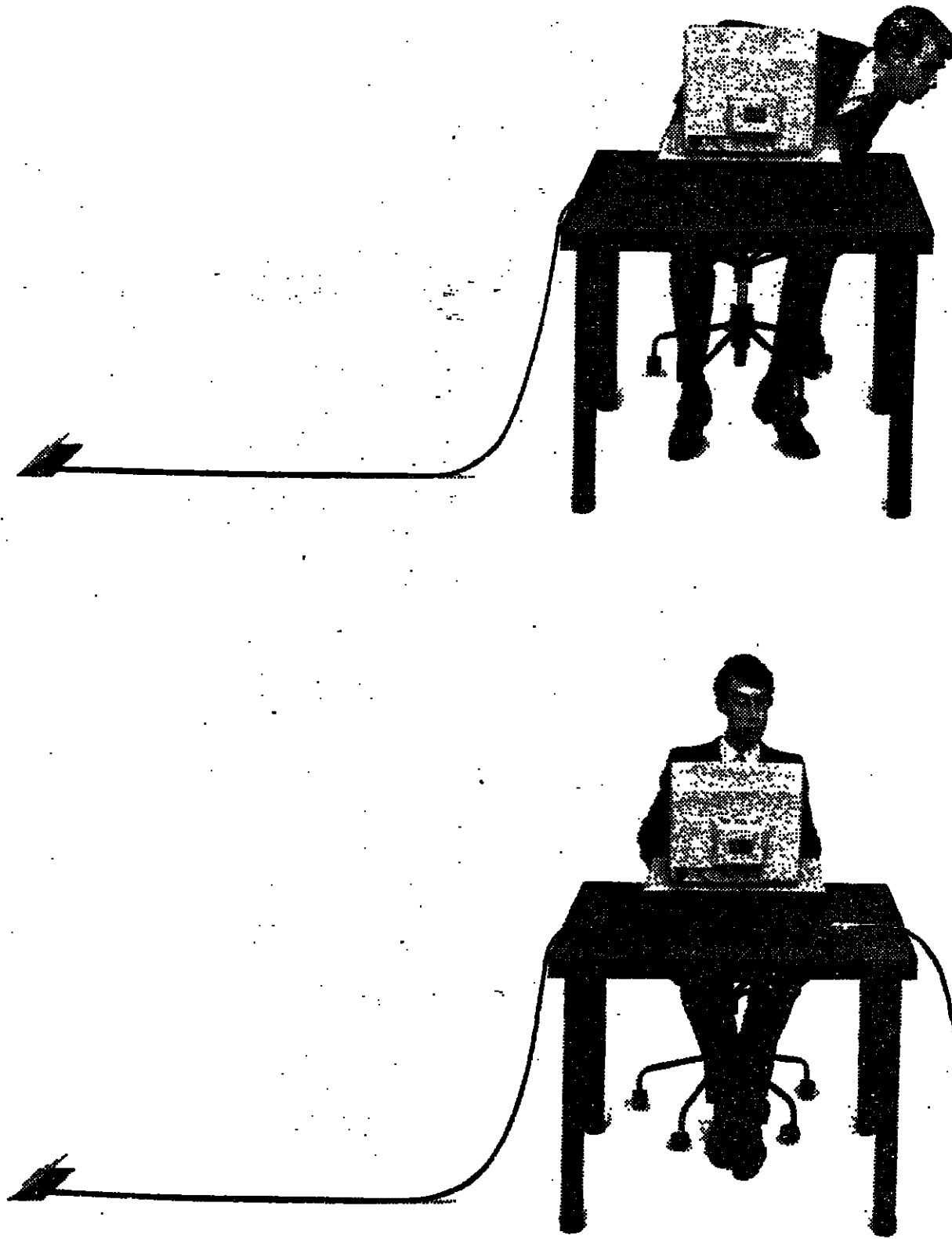
Several Western newspapers, including *The Times*, have appeared on sale at corner kiosks in the past few days in Budapest.

*The Times*, the *International Herald Tribune* and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* are now displayed next to the usual Hungarian party papers and foreign communist publications such as the *Morning Star*.

The appearance of these Western papers on public display is unprecedented in Eastern Europe and coincides with the European cultural forum which opened in the

Hungarian capital last week. A Hungarian government spokesman said, however, that the papers would continue to be on sale after the forum closed in five weeks.

*The Times* and other Western papers have long been available in Budapest's hotels at surprisingly low prices. *The Times*, for example, costs only 21 forints (30p) compared with £1.25p in neighbouring Austria. As most educated Hungarians can read German and English fluently, demand for the papers is likely to exceed supply.



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# Mubarak denounces US and Tunisia for stabbing him in the back

By Our Foreign Staff

President Mubarak of Egypt has accused the United States and Tunisia of stabbing him in the back by colluding to have the Egyptian plane carrying the Achille Lauro hijackers forced down in Italy.

In an interview on the *Sixty Minutes* television programme on Sunday night President Mubarak was asked whether he thought the United States and Tunisia, which denied the Egyptian plane permission to land, had arranged a trap for him.

"Yes, yes, frankly yes," he replied and added: "I could tell you I considered from the United States a stab in the back and the stab in the back from who? From a friend."

He said: "The reality is we asked permission for Egypt Air, lined up to go to Tunisia, to leave at eight o'clock from Cairo. They asked the Americans. The Americans told them, 'Give them permission'... You (the Americans) knew the information through Tunisia and we are sure of that."

"At that time, you decided to take the decision for interception." Asked about the allegation the White House said "There was no such deal between the United States and Tunisia."

American intelligence on its own had ascertained that the Egyptian plane was departing and that it believed it was

headed for Tunis because it was the site of the Palestine Liberation organization (PLO) headquarters.

While the Egyptian airliner was flying towards Tunis, the Tunisian authorities refused it landing rights. But this was Tunisia's own decision.

TUNIS: Tunisia was asked by the US States to accept the Egyptian plane but refused as a matter of principle, an authoritative source said here (according to Reuters).

Tunisia's policy was never to allow planes carrying hijackers to land on its soil, the source said. The source, who did not want to be named, declined to respond specifically to President Mubarak's latest accusation that Tunisia collaborated with the United States in the affair. The government had already denied such Egyptian accusations, the source said.

"The Americans asked if we would accept the plane and we said not. We do not allow planes carrying hijackers to land."

ROME: Tunisia maintains that it refused permission for the Egyptian airliner to land at Tunis airport because of its opposition in principle to terrorism and hijacking, not as a result of a request from the United States or elsewhere (John Early writes).

This was made clear by Mr

Mohamed M'zali, the Prime Minister at a press conference while on an official visit to Italy last Wednesday. "It has been our constant policy to fight terrorism and piracy," he said. "We are for the respect of international law. It was normal that we said no to this aircraft which was carrying pirates."

CAIRO (Reuters) - Mr John Whitehead, the US envoy in two hours of talks with President Hosni Mubarak yesterday, sought to cool his anger at America's forced diversion of the Egyptian plane, but he appeared to stop short of an explicit apology (Reuters reports).

Mr Whitehead, sent by President Reagan to patch up ties with one of Washington's closest Arab partners, said the United States was sorry the Achille Lauro hijack turned out the way it did.

But his statement to reporters later - "We very much regret that developments took the course they did" - did not appear to amount to the public apology Mr Mubarak had demanded.

Mr Reagan sent Mr Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State, to mend fences after Mr Mubarak declared national pride was hurt when US Navy jet fighters forced an Egypt Air Boeing 737 to land in Italy 11 days ago.



Mrs Marilyn Klinghoffer, widow of Leon Klinghoffer, the Achille Lauro hijack murder victim, with her daughter Lisa during a ceremony for her husband at John F. Kennedy airport in New York

## Problem for Craxi over new Cabinet

From John Earle Rome

President Cossiga yesterday asked the Socialist leader, Signor Bettino Craxi, to form Italy's 45th government since the war, four days after the fall of his previous coalition. But Signor Craxi immediately indicated that reshaping the same five-party team would not be easy.

He is conducting a first round of consultations with the coalition partners - Christian Democrats, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals as well as his own Socialists - and with other parties before flying to the United States for Thursday's meeting of Western heads of government with President Reagan.

The main obstacles are the Republicans whose leader, Signor Giovanni Spadolini, withdrew his ministers from the Government last week in a disagreement over Italy's refusal to comply with a US request for the Palestinian leader, Mr Abu Abbas, to be arrested and extradited in the wake of the Achille Lauro cruise ship hijacking.

After a 40-minute talk with President Cossiga, Signor Craxi said he was starting work on "resolving a political crisis which could turn out not to be of easy solution". A firm and solid agreement was necessary among coalition partners on principles and programmes covering Italy's international role and national independence, as well as its internal problems.



Signor Craxi: task will not be easy

such as the economy and unemployment.

Signor Spadolini, Minister of Defence in the outgoing government, has however been trimming his sails since last week. He now emphasizes that the Republicans' main complaint is about a lack of consultation by Signor Craxi with senior ministers.

He has also denied that, when an Egyptian airliner carrying the Achille Lauro hijackers together with Mr Abbas was forced down in Sicily, he agreed with a request from Mr Caspar Weinberger, his American opposite number, for the hijackers to be sent to the US.

The events caused a serious strain in relations with Washington, which was eased when Signor Craxi on Saturday received a personal letter from President Reagan, which, Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Foreign Minister, said yesterday, "rectified a mistaken position".

## Schmidt says West Europe leaderless

By Mark Dowd

Helmut Schmidt, former Chancellor of West Germany, said yesterday that "Europe has never been so leaderless." West European leaders had abdicated their responsibilities for framing a common approach to world politics, particularly in respect to the Soviet Union.

He was speaking at the West German Embassy before the launching of his new book *A Grand Strategy for the West* next month.

The seeds of decay in leadership he traced back to 1977. Before then, Giscard d'Estaing, Wilson, Callaghan and Schmidt himself had demonstrated "a superior grasp of the realities of Soviet power" in co-operation with the Nixon and Ford administrations.

"But who is to speak for Europe now?" Herr Schmidt mentioned only two slight possibilities: Lord Carrington, Secretary-General of NATO and Jacques Delors, President of the EEC Commission. He voiced deep reservations in particular about the effects of the "special relationship" between President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher on the quest for a deeper sense of common identity between the states of Western Europe.

Coherent strategies in the areas of economic co-operation and security policies were essential, said Herr Schmidt, to enable Western Europe to face up to the Soviet threat.

## Prisoners of Conscience



Bede-Mariam Mekonnen (left) and Maria Gorete Joaquin

## Special week focuses on plight of young victims

By Caroline Moorehead

overthrown. Though never charged or tried he is still in prison.

These are just two of the many cases of young people tortured, imprisoned or "disappeared" that are being publicized this week as part of Amnesty International's Prisoner of Conscience Week, which this year focuses on children.

In some countries even the death penalty is used on the young. A woman held in Evin Prison in Iran has testified: "One night a young girl of 16 called Tahereh was brought straight from the court room to our cell. She had just been sentenced to death and was confused and agitated... at about 4am they came for her..."

Bede-Mariam Mekonnen, a 17-year-old schoolboy, grandson of the late Emperor Haile Selassie, was arrested in Addis Ababa in 1974 when the Emperor's government was

## Le Pen accused of lying about taxes

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the extreme-right National Front, has been accused of lies over his liability to pay wealth tax. This comes after accusations last week of torture, anti-semitism, and underhand dealings over the inheritance from his former benefactor.

In a television interview last Wednesday, M Le Pen claimed twice that he was not subject to the wealth tax payable on all fortunes of more than 3.5 million francs (£500,000) excluding works of art and productive capital.

On Friday, he reaffirmed this claim after the publication of reports in the press, citing unnamed tax officials, that the National Front leader had been required to pay the wealth tax in each of the past three years.

and that he was 2 million francs in arrears with his tax payments.

On Saturday, however, M Le Pen changed his tune, asserting during the National Front's two-day Red, White and Blue Festival at Le Bourget, on the outskirts of Paris, that he had never said he was not subject to the wealth tax, but simply that he had not filled in his wealth tax return for 1985.

M Le Pen has denied allegations by his former friend and companion over 30 years, Dr Jean-Maurice Demarquet, that he was involved in the torture of Algerians during the Algerian war of independence and that he extricated a will in his favour from the late multi-millionaire industrialist, M Hubert Lambert.

For the first time in Thailand a Westerner has been sentenced to death for drug trafficking. A court at Phuket, in the south, condemned Donald Roy Tait, aged 52, of Sydney, after finding him guilty of illegal possession of 4 1/2 lb of heroin.

Tait, a pilot, who denied the charge, said he would appeal against the conviction and sentence.

The court said the severest penalty was required because he had a large quantity of heroin, a long criminal record and had attempted to evade arrest. Executions in Thailand are normally carried out by a police non-commissioned officer with a machine gun.

Since his arrest 15 months ago Tait has claimed he was in Thailand on legitimate business but had been set up by Thai police.

## Gorbachov to placate his allies

From A Correspondent Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov and other East European leaders are meeting in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia today just one month before Mr Gorbachov's 50th birthday.

Western diplomats said Mr Gorbachov was evidently anxious to reassure his East bloc allies that he has their interests in mind.

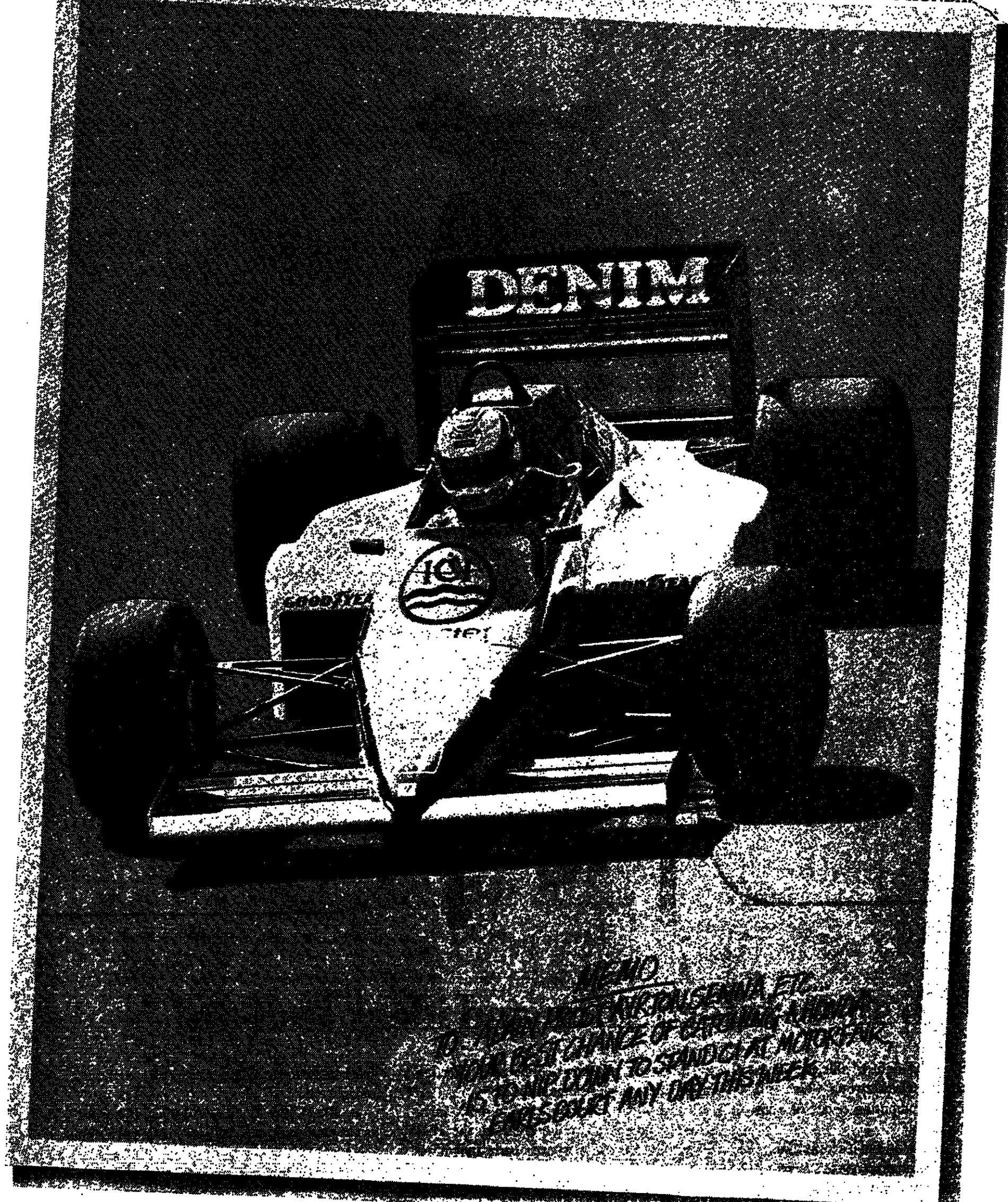
"He does not want to be seen meeting with (President) Mitterrand in France, then Reagan in Geneva and not with his allies," one diplomat said.

Mr Gorbachov met Warsaw Pact leaders in Poland shortly after becoming leader in March.

The agenda at the present meeting is certain to include the coming summit and new Soviet arms proposals, particularly since Mr Gorbachov's style is to encourage open and in-depth discussion.

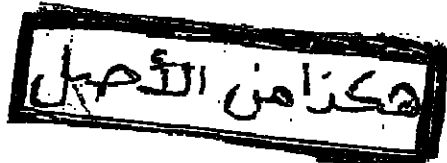
Leading article, page 17

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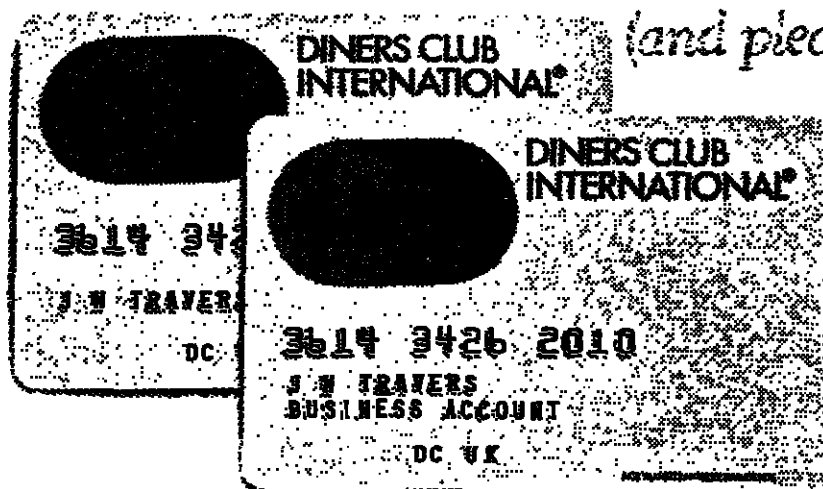
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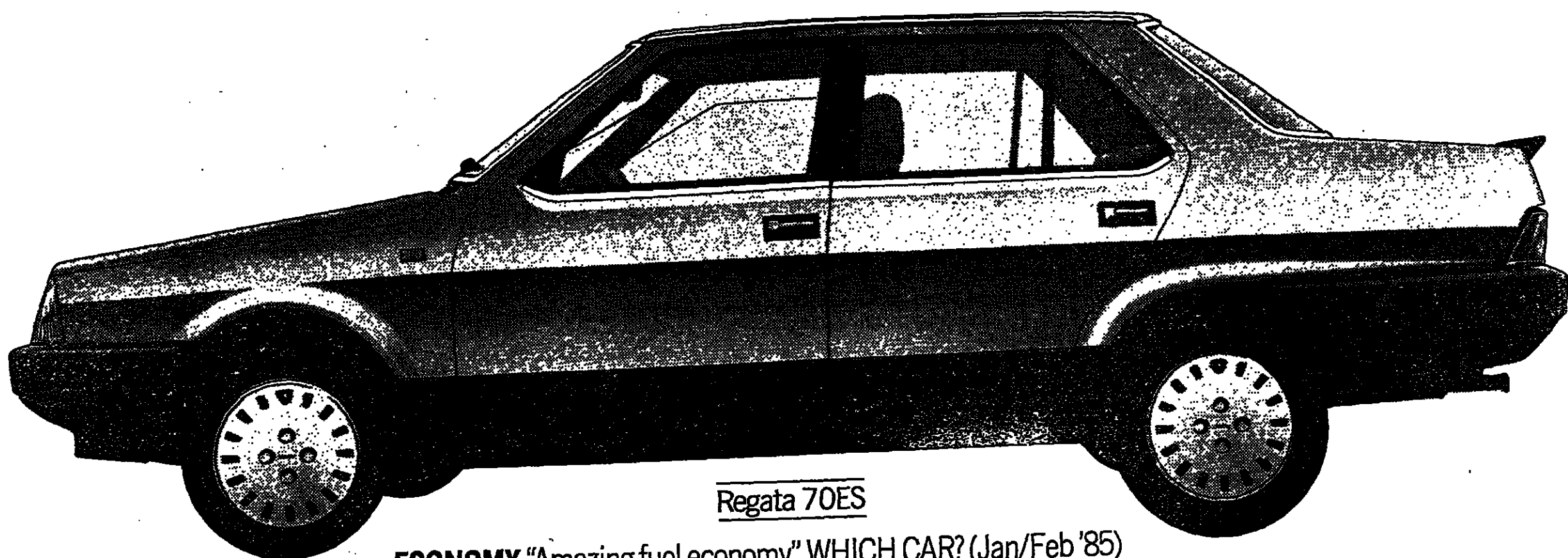
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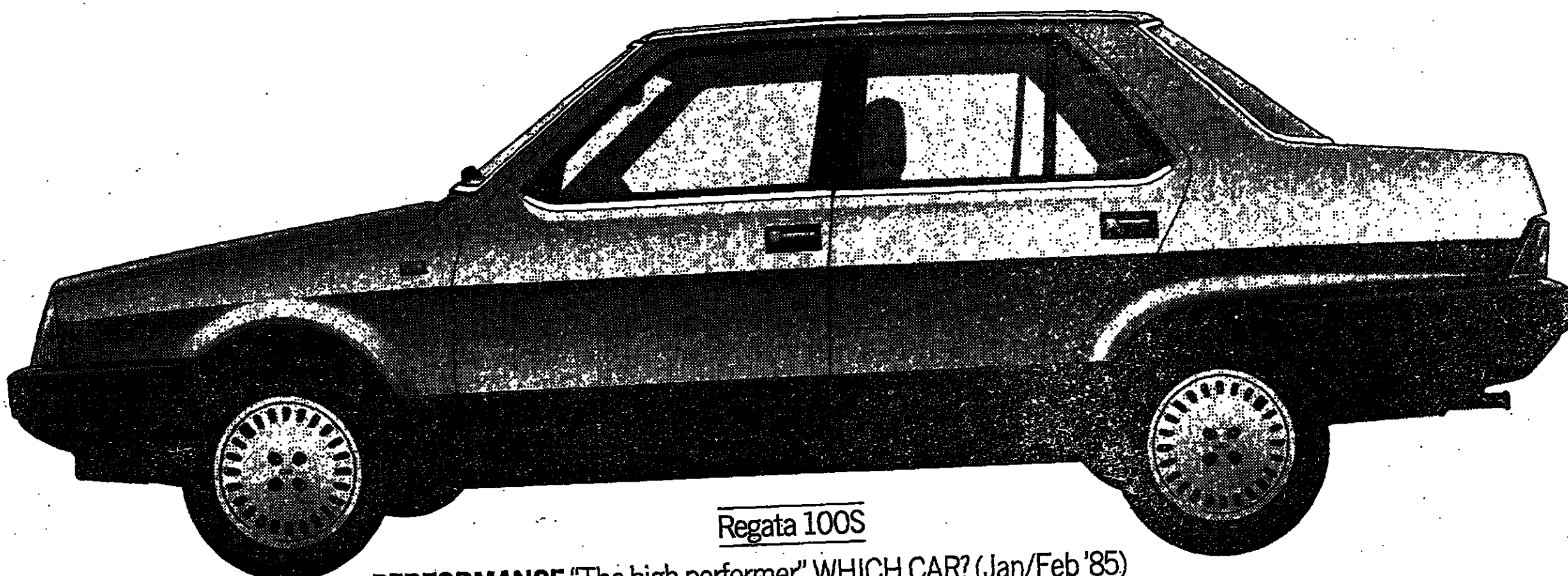


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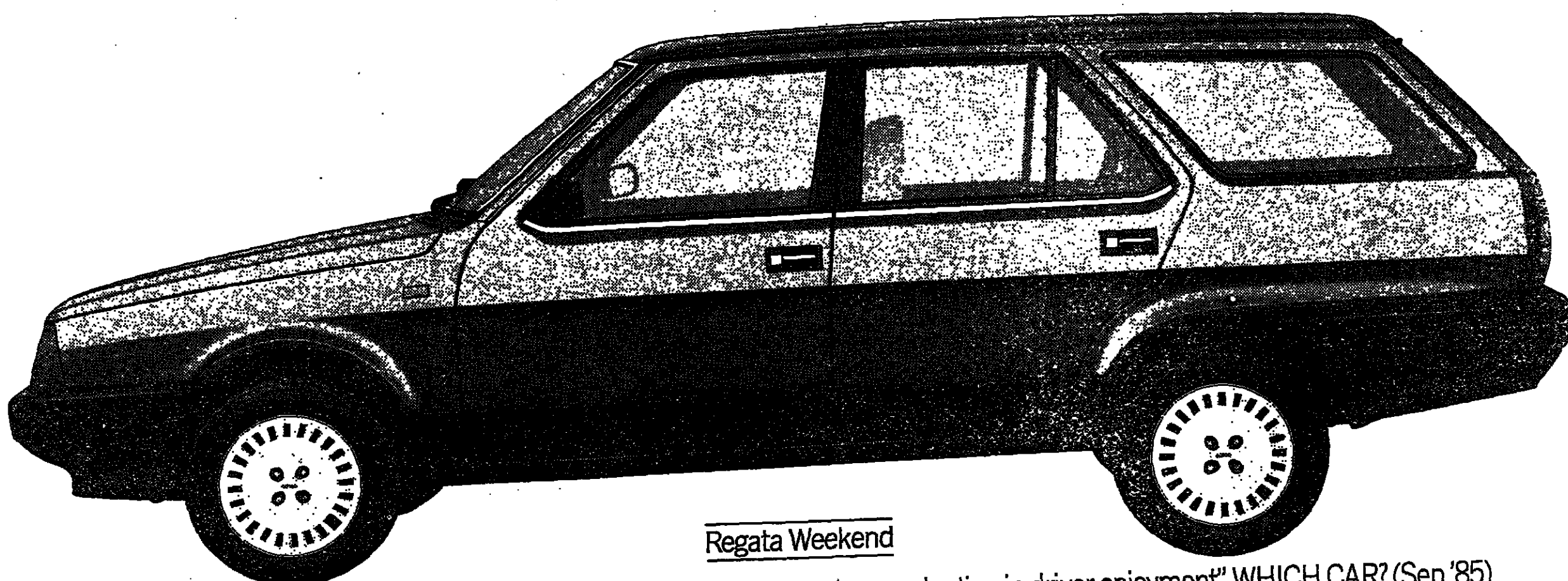
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## SPECTRUM

# Bob rocks the boat in Africa

The niceties of presidential protocol went by the board on Bob Geldof's famine tour of Africa which ended yesterday. Paul Valley reports

It was not clear whether Hissène Habré, the President of the Republic of Chad, noticed Bob Geldof's peculiar gestures as they sat together on the sofa in the presidential palace. Whenever the head of state turned his attention to another questioner Geldof would shape his hands into a ring and then make them quiver in the pretence of pressure.

The object was to make the questioner laugh in mid-sentence. Everybody in the room but for the unfortunate statesman was in on the schoolboy joke.

For days before the meeting Geldof had been working himself up to ask Habré whether it was true that he had once personally strangled two of his political opponents while they were awaiting execution in the condemned cell. The night before they met he had broached the subject during an all-male Muslim dinner with a member of the Chadian Cabinet. When the minister's moderately fluent English proved unequal to the task, the lead singer of the Boomtown Rats seized him by the throat and started to throttle him by way of demonstration.

In the event, perhaps fortunately for all, Geldof never actually plucked up the courage to ask the question, though the Chadian

president found his alternative opening remark odd in any case: "Hello. You've got grey hair. It's brown in the pictures. Do you dye it for the photos?"

The heads of state on this six-nation tour of Africa's famine belt have taken it all rather well. Habré explained that grey hair was the lot of any ruler of Chad. In Sudan, General Swar al-Dahab merely smiled when, on being presented with the gaudy blue, white and gold insignia of the Order of the Two Niles (Second Class), Geldof asked: "Where are the earrings?" Fortunately he did not know at the time that the singer Harry Belafonte had been given the award with first-class status.

In Niger, President Kountché was scrupulously polite when Geldof did not turn up to see him at an audience attended by the rest of the Band Aid entourage. "I can't be bothered," Geldof said. "Kountché seems quite a sensible chap. I'm only interested in madmen in power."

There is, for all the deliberate uncouthness, a spiky charm to the man whom Radio Niger, without any trace of irony, dubbed *Geldof de l'Afrique*. For beneath the punk diplomacy - "Can you have a word with Libya about that, then, General?" - is a compassion which



Geldof of Africa: Band Aid's leader in Niger, asking questions not asked by the professionals

Geldof seems embarrassed even to acknowledge and certainly will not put on show for the protocol men who arrange endless courtesy meetings or the politicians who attend them.

When he is out in the field, however, it is manifested in a powerful sense of moral indignation. "What I am saying is this: why is that old man dying of hunger in the village over there when there is all this food here?"

The man he was addressing was the provincial commissioner of the Northern Province of Burkina Faso. The commissioner was standing in a storeroom with piles of USaid

sorghum towering above his head. He was sweating profusely beneath the scrutiny of the BBC television crew which dogs Geldof's every step. He wiped his brow and took a quick breath before launching out again on his long and complex explanation of their system of distribution.

"I'm not interested in the bloody system," Geldof shouted. "Why has he no food? Why is he starving to death?"

Geldof has spent the past two weeks striding around Africa like a latterday Everyman. In theory he is there to reach decisions on how Live Aid's £48 million should be spent but in practice he is leaving that

detail to a team of administrators and expert consultants in London. Geldof sees his real job out here as asking the obvious questions which the professionals have forgotten how to ask.

"I ask the questions which the people who gave the money would ask. If professionals say they are naive or ill-informed, fair enough - just so long as they can give a good answer."

He has the same attitude to the heads of state he meets. In the background the protocol men shuffle. But where they are quick to put an end to unpalatable queries from journalists by shouting "No

more questions, no more questions" they are unable to do the same to the honoured guest with the millions in the back pocket of his pink trousers.

"Is it true that you torture people as Amnesty International says?" he demands baldly of the President of Burkina Faso. "How can you justify requesting 400,000 tons of food aid for Darfour next year when your harvest elsewhere should bring in a million-ton surplus?" he asked the military leader of Sudan.

Often the answers, from all sources, are more complex than he would like to admit. Usually Geldof then stops listening and starts on one of his tirades about "moral imperatives". Sometimes he responds to complexities by trampling all over them. He discovered the dying old man in the village by being where he was not supposed to be.

He's just walked all over local etiquette here", said one frustrated UN worker who had explained to Geldof that he was not being invited into one particularly desolate village because the head man had no hospitality to offer in his house. Not realizing that in this circumstance the house and village were synonymous, Geldof said: "OK" and walked straight in anyway.

Aid workers accused him of being macabre and being a famine tourist but he countered belligerently later: "If I hadn't gone in we wouldn't have found the dying old man."

His chronic impatience has not been improved by the lengthy committee meetings he has held in the capitals of Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, Sudan and lastly Ethiopia. In each he gathered together representatives of government departments, the UN, the EEC and voluntary agencies. He asked for a briefing on the local situation, then told them he expected a consensus on what was the best way that Band Aid could spend its cash.

Sometimes he would allow his colleague Kevin Jenden to do the talking (usually when he had a case of African Tummy) and would then interrupt Jenden's ponderous meanderings with a rumbling crescendo of "pompous, pompous, pompous". The only official building in which Geldof did not seem too

bored was in the wedding-cake palace of Captain Thomas Sankara, the President of Burkina Faso, which before its revolution was called Upper Volta. Aid workers in the country have few doubts that Sankara's anti-bourgeois, anti-metropolitan, pro-peasant revolution is just what a country as poor as this needs, but there is little doubt either that Sankara himself is a man of some eccentricity.

There was a long wait in a grand ante-room before the summons came. Outside was a long conservatory, the corridor to the president's office. At the end of it a little corporal in olive fatigues hopped nervously from one foot to another and leaned out to catch a glimpse of the great pop star as he passed. Then he extended his hand. This was in fact not the sentry at the cabinet door but the President of Burkina Faso.

"How's the revolution going?" asked the well-informed pop singer. Sankara, who spoke nervously and with speed, told him it was well. He had sent his ministers off to work with the peasants in the fields, made his diplomats sleep on floors and eat his sandwiches and did not use his air-conditioned office but worked in the hot corridor like his people.

"Everybody is unhappy with my austerity measures. Even I am", he said simply, and then requested Geldof to ask him some reggae tapes from London because he had banned their import himself.

Trying to be truly independent as a small African country was a bit like trying to be a rebel pop star on a big record label, he said. Geldof nodded knowingly and offered the dictator a Live Aid T-shirt and a Bob Marley tape which Geldof had pinched from one of the journalists (me).

After much haranguing about Coca-Colonialism, the truth about Northern Ireland, Israel and South Africa, and the lies of Amnesty International, Sankara announced he would like to form a pop group. He would play guitar and Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the President of Ghana, would play drums. Would Bob be interested in joining?

"I'm not sure I'd have the time", he responded with uncharacteristic diplomacy. "Why not ask the King of Thailand? He plays sax."

## 'Second-class' wives who sulk

From Beryl Rooke, South Close, Greatworth, Oxon.

Liz Hodgkinson puts herself in the same league as terrorists and vandals as well as a lot of children under five when she puts forward her reaction to the arrangements made for spouses at conferences. ("Second-class life", Wednesday Page, October 16).

Her attitude is "if someone is organizing something I shall do the opposite: if someone suggests something I shall disagree and if no one looks at me I shall jump up and down and scream until they do".

It is a philosophy which immediately reacts against any kind of authority and the

### TALKBACK

frightening thought for me is that here in a supposedly educated and reasoning human being is the replica of the warped thinking process of every extremist in the world.

By making such a fuss about the boredom and rejection of "unaccompanied spouses" at conferences Liz reveals her own problems rather than those of the organizers. How could she be so childish as to refuse to wear her badge, boycott the arrangements made for wives at a conference and sulk at the back of the conference hall? If

Liz sees herself as a "non-person" that is exactly what she becomes to others.

She has three choices. Either she stays at home, or she goes to the conference and abides by the conventions - including its coach trips with other wives and all - or she uses the mini-break to her own advantage, going her own way during the business sessions and meeting up with her husband when appropriate.

Of course, Liz may be venting her wrath upon the conference organizers when the real target is her husband, who dares to be occupied with matters from which she is excluded.

But that, as I said earlier, is her problem.

## Is the West being won over?

The very freedom of the western media serves the ends of Soviet agents, writes Chapman Pincher in this last extract from his latest book



Philip Agee: journalist and a former officer of the CIA

A former director-general of M15 has gone on record as warning that the KGB, and the Soviet bloc intelligence services generally, are "very active in the press world in Fleet Street". Writers, commentators, editors, producers and others are targets not only because they are potential channels for propaganda and disinformation but because they are agents of influence on others of their kind.

It is no coincidence that Soviet "active-measures" operations against the West have intensified as the "communications revolution" has progressed. The effect of television on demonstrations, picket lines, speeches and other events which otherwise receive scant notice is fully appreciated by the Politburo's International Department and the KGB.

As was highlighted by the intensive research into the background of the *Der Spiegel* affair conducted by Sir James Goldsmith, the western media constitute one of the main institutions through which the Soviet Communists and their supporters are dedicated to making their "long march". While all active-measures are regarded by the International Department as being complementary, the manipulation of

foreign media is the most productive in exerting mass influence. While there are many instances of journalists who become agents (some like Kim Philby using the profession to become full-blown spies), cases where agents become journalists



Philip Agee: journalist and a former officer of the CIA

6 A pernicious purveyor of disinformation against the CIA

to pursue a pro-Soviet line are rare. They do exist, however, and the classic instance is the former CIA officer Philip Agee, who defected from American intelligence in 1969 claiming to be disillusioned with its activities. Since then, while remaining in the West, he has been a particularly pernicious purveyor of disinformation against his old employer and functions as a Communist revolutionary propagandist.

As Sir James Goldsmith told the Conservative Party Media Committee when giving evidence on the use of the Press by the Soviet active measures machinery, "The causes which [Agee] promotes closely parallel the campaigns initiated by the International Information Department in Moscow."

In 1977 Agee was deported from Britain after evidence became available of dangerous subversion including regular contact with foreign intelligence officers.

One of the most dedicated and successful agents of influence, used for almost 40 years, was the Australian journalist Wilfred Burchett, once a *Daily Express* foreign correspondent.

Burchett remained an active disinformation agent until he died in Sofia in September 1983, aged 72. According to the Soviet defector Yuri Krotov, he received money from the KGB via various Communist parties.

In a fulsome obituary in *The Guardian* Burchett was described as a journalist who "did not believe objectivity was a holy grail, an end in itself, but only one means to the truth". But in a report entitled *Penetration of the American Mass Media* (supplied to me by Sir

James Goldsmith), the American writer Reed Irvine more accurately described Burchett as: "A prime example of the success the Communists have had in insinuating their propaganda into the media of the free world... Burchett had many friends among the free world journalists and was able to get his articles placed in influential publications."

There are many such people in influential positions in the British and American media and, no doubt, elsewhere in Europe. The laws of libel make it difficult for some of the most blatant to be named.

However, most of the editors, television producers and writers who publicize the views of Soviet active measures agents such as Georgy Arbatov, who heads the Soviet Institute for the United States and Canada (controlled by the International Department and used to enable agents to travel widely in the West), would sincerely deny that they are being used. They are most often the victims of contacts whom they trust but who are Soviet-inclined agents of influence such as left-wing politicians.

When a planted story appears in a paper of repute it tends to be sent out worldwide on the agency tapes and then to appear in many other journals. A successful disinformation plant can exert a long-lasting effect through the cuttings libraries maintained by all newspapers.

The main Soviet press agency, Novosti, is used for disseminating lies and deception. The Soviet defector Thomas Schuman, whose evidence has been made available to me, states that "Novosti... is now subor-

dated to the International Department and works in close liaison with the KGB... for the purposes of planning, coordinating and conducting active measures."

Whenever the governments being attacked by terrorists and "freedom fighters" take steps to defend themselves and their citizens they are vilified in the Communist-controlled and penetrated media as fascists.

Other evidence from defectors and from some British spies who were recruited as Soviet agents shows that the BBC has long been high on the target list of the KGB, and this must also apply to the independent networks.

Does the KGB need to try to hit the target? Does the media ever shoot itself in the foot anyway?

The BBC's *Panorama* is frequently politically slanted, especially in programmes concerning nuclear weapons, but a survey has disclosed that Channel 4 is "most often expected to be anti-establishment".

In the spring of 1985, when Channel 4 produced an essentially anti-British series called *End of Empire*, the venom was injected even into the heavy advertising which accompanied the programme. In relation to the episode covering the fall of Singapore, someone injected the question in a full-page newspaper advertisement: "Would you stand up for the National Anthem after tonight's episode?"

Extracted by David Sinclair from *The Secret Offensive* by Chapman Pincher which will be published by Sidgwick and Jackson on October 31. £12.95.



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## Adoption: the phantom guest

### COMMENT

Christine Brown

A funny thing happened on my daughter's 21st birthday last week. I never gave her mother a thought. I don't think my daughter did either. Well, when I say her mother, I mean her other mother, whom people have often referred to over the years as "her real mother".

She's been with us in thought for 21 years now, always cropping up on the birthday-like an unseen guest. Until this year, when I think she was quietly put out of our minds.

My daughter is adopted. So are her brothers and sister. They were adopted in less liberal times for adoption societies when the procedure was a much more tight-lipped, secretive affair than it is now.

Now adoptive parents can be given details and even mementoes they can hand over to their children in later years. They can also meet the natural mother. With us it was different.

When we adopted Susan we were told nothing that could give us, or our daughter, any picture of her real mother. Our only information was "a very young girl, rather small really". So our pint-sized 21 year old never had anything to draw on and neither did we. No complaints. I just wonder if we got this "legacy" with each adoption instead.

Maybe it was a self-imposed thing, a bit contrived. Maybe not. But on each birthday there it was. Once the final candle was squashed into the cake, the last balloon punctured and the

final best friend had left, one of us would say: "I wonder what your mother is thinking today".

I think mostly it was me, or at least said at my instigation. For with adoption comes the occasional guilt feeling, a hang-up about the real mother. Somehow "I wonder what she's thinking today" helped.

At first, and for some time after, it just seemed a completely natural thing to do. It was part of the birthday celebrations. On the occasions it didn't come from one of the children, I'd feel obliged to say it at the end of the day - "I couldn't help wondering what your mother was thinking today". Sometimes the response was thoughtful, sometimes merely dutiful: "Oh yes, of course".

But what started out naturally became a kind of ritual. Quite a nice, comforting one, but still a ritual. It just seemed enough if one person - me, their dad, or one of them - said it somewhere, sometime on the birthday. The funny thing was that it didn't come up at other celebrations. School speech days, Brownie enrolment, first Cub camp, first girlfriend, etc. but with no reference to their mother.

Gradually, I realized how meaningless it had become. For one thing we never thought of the father. Mind you, we had even fewer details of him than we had of the mother - in other words, none at all. The other thing was that this phantom was locked in time. She (they each had a different mother but somehow it was a composite picture for me) was still this young girl who couldn't keep her baby. She never grew a day older in my mind. It was hard enough conjuring up this mental picture without adding any realistic ageing each year.

I think the last time "she" came up was last year. It was my youngest's 18th birthday and I hadn't given her mother a thought. But at the end of the day my daughter suddenly switched off the new Walkman and said: "You know, I was just wondering how my mother, well she, you know... Anyway, I wondered if she remembered what day this was". I hadn't wondered at all but my daughter, her daughter, had.

This year I didn't wonder at the 21st birthday and neither did the party girl. Or if she did she was keeping it to herself. No one else in the family expressed the thought either.

I don't know if I should feel sorry or glad she's gone. It's been a long time. I can't help wondering if she, or rather they, held on to us over all those years...

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 780)

- ACROSS  
1 Arabian peasant (6)  
5 Geographical diagram (4)  
8 Suggest (5)  
9 Unimaginative (7)  
11 Restrain (4,4)  
12 Increase (4)  
15 Multi-factual book (13)  
17 Honey wine (4)  
18 Lovable (8)  
21 Japanese warrior (7)  
22 Of vision (5)  
23 Rugged rock (4)  
24 Easily imitated (6)

- DOWN  
2 Throw out (5)  
3 Grassland (3)  
4 Valedictorian (13)  
6 Mind state (4)  
7 Poster (7)  
9 September 29 (10)  
10 Recupate (10)  
12 B Min Mass composer (4)  
14 Den (4)  
16 Exam school (7)  
19 Group (5)  
20 Spirit drink (4)  
22 Choose (3)

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مكاتب الصحف



# S stands for shape

Paris fashion is on an upward curve. A strong silhouette, a unified message and a return to the tailored, constructed clothes that the French understand, has brought new-found confidence.

Curves are the story from every single designer. This is the season of the S-bend, with the body so much in focus that the skinniest models have been replaced by the dusky and exotic Iman or the voluptuous Khadija, a former Miss Africa. Karl Lagerfeld even compensated for the stringy shapes of the western mannequin by padding out the hips of his short, tight skirts and rucking up the bodice of a clingy jersey dress to emphasize the bust. In between the waist is a hand-span between the curves, cinched with a wide belt or emphasized with a high-cut waistband.

The derriere is another part of the anatomy to be thrust into fashion. Its outlines were emphasized by Gaultier's clinging tube of fabric that breaks out in a front of rills well below the knee. Gaultier also pulled lacing - a Paris sub-plot this season - taut around the backside of his skirts, while Montana tried the same trick with a jacket over slim skirts that opened in a fan of fabric on the posterior curve. Montana, Lagerfeld and Rykiel all showed cycle shorts clinging to the thighs. The only time fabric was freed was for a new wide trouser shape that will have to work hard to oust the ski pants that are this season's Paris street style.

King of the curves Azzedine Alaïa, the man responsible for the S-shaped silhouette, is not showing his collection this week. *Le roi s'amuse*, watching other designers redrawing the shapes and taking up the fabric like wool jersey and crisp gabardine that he launched three years ago when the new wave of Japanese design broke over French fashions.

The Japanese silhouette of shapeless asymmetric clothes has been routed. But Rei Kawakubo of Comme Des Garçons still produced a superb collection, working now very close to the body but keeping the asymmetric cut and drapes which she gave to the fashion world. Her collection started with skinny rib knit in the sweetest colours - mauve, pistachio green and pearl grey that seem a world away from her earlier holocaust of black and grey. Black and white leafy prints on the viscose fabric were made into skinny dresses or pinafiores layered over T-shirts or put under a curly, midriff-high bolero for a long, lean line.

This is not only the new Paris silhouette, it also suggests the major stories for next spring: the sarong skirt, elaborated into sari dresses and suits by Thierry Mugler; shorts, both the tight cycle pants and the wider shorter playsuits. S is also for sheer fabrics like chiffon and georgette that are used more generously but show the body through the fabric.

Yohji Yamamoto, still working in very sombre colours, has

## THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIONS PARIS

refined his silhouette with wraps from midriff to knee, lapping sarong skirts round the hips and hanging shirt tails in wisps of transparent chiffon.

Next Wednesday, France's Minister of Culture, Jack Lang, inaugurates the first fashion Oscars, to be presented at a gala at the opera house. This Hollywood-style climax to the Paris fashion week suggests that fashion is showbiz as well as big business for the French. A backdrop of desert pyramids launched Cecil B. de M'ugler's latest spectacular which included Iman sashaying down the catwalk in a wrapped sari suit, a live monkey clinging to her bosom and a native bearer complete with palm leaf parasol bringing up the rear (but not covering much of his own).

And beneath the conical Nefertiti hairstyle, the armfuls of gilded bangles, the gigantic golden disc earrings and rather smaller gilt bra cups, were some very good clothes indeed. Thierry Mugler, a former disciple of Azzedine Alaïa, is another sorcerer of female curve and his Ottoman rib knits, belted tightly over pedal-pusher pants, his skinny buttermilk suede dresses, his cotton gabardine sarong dresses with a low-slung wrap at the front, as well as the sari dresses, were also far more wearable than the mega-production suggested.

Jean Paul Gaultier, too, had a strong collection in spite of his show, held in a stadium outside Paris large enough to accommodate the 4,500 spectators who were admitted free. Gaultier, like Galliano in London, seems to be looking towards Gin Alley, bringing in lace-up bodices, petticoats and panniers.

A downbeat presentation failed to make the most of what should be the highlights of the Gaultier collection: flocked knit patchwork on transfer printed leather, a fresh fashion look at synthetics, from jackets in ginger nylon to pantie-girdles of stretch lace.

Karl Lagerfeld produced his best collection yet under his own label, making very short tight skirts curved up like a tailcoat at the front. The padded hips and peplum jackets teetering in on platform-soled sandals put the accent on the waist. Montana's collection was so perfectly realized that it looked more like nouvelle couture than ready-to-wear. Even his cycle shorts in navy gabardine under tailored jackets look wearable; drape back blouses in apricot suede were delicious; ebony brown evening dresses cut like swimsuits and flowing down to the floor in a mermaid pale fabric were superb. Hip, shape and back interest were the main themes and the Paris lacing appeared as the arm and shoulder line of a seductive little black grey dress.

Issey Miyake is a fashion original. His parade of garments which changed shape and form

on the runway included boldly striped knits, chequerboard skirts, leggings and silk coats, worn over swimsuits and folded into a tiny bag. Miyake also made superb use of Indian batik and silk on display at the Musée des Arts Décoratifs.

Chloe had a bright and snappy show designed in primary colours by Peter O'Brien, and Ann-Marie Beretta continued to produce heroic clothes with a big silhouette and sweeping sarong skirts.

Vivienne Westwood made a return to Paris. The founding mother of funky fashion showed schmaltzy broderie anglaise bloomers, dolly dresses

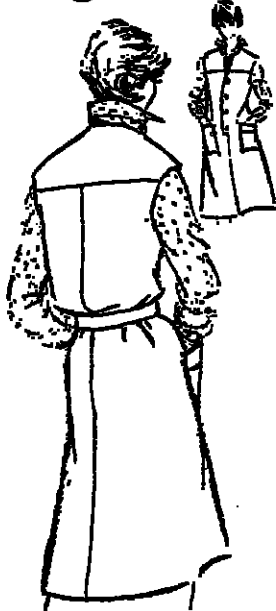
over hooped petticoats and swimsuits like tacky underwear. Her music was a barrel organ and she made monkeys out of her jam-packed audience.

The haute couture names from Chanel to Saint Laurent show their ready-to-wear collections this week. Meanwhile, Sonia Rykiel struck gold with a fast-paced feminine collection which put cycle shorts under elongated knit tunics and balanced short skirts with long wide trousers. A bright palette of chrome yellow and lagoon blue, lit with golden accessories, made a happy marriage between flirty fashion and French chic.

## FRIDAY

Suzy Menkes is on the voting panel for the first Paris fashion Oscars. She will report in *The Times* on Friday

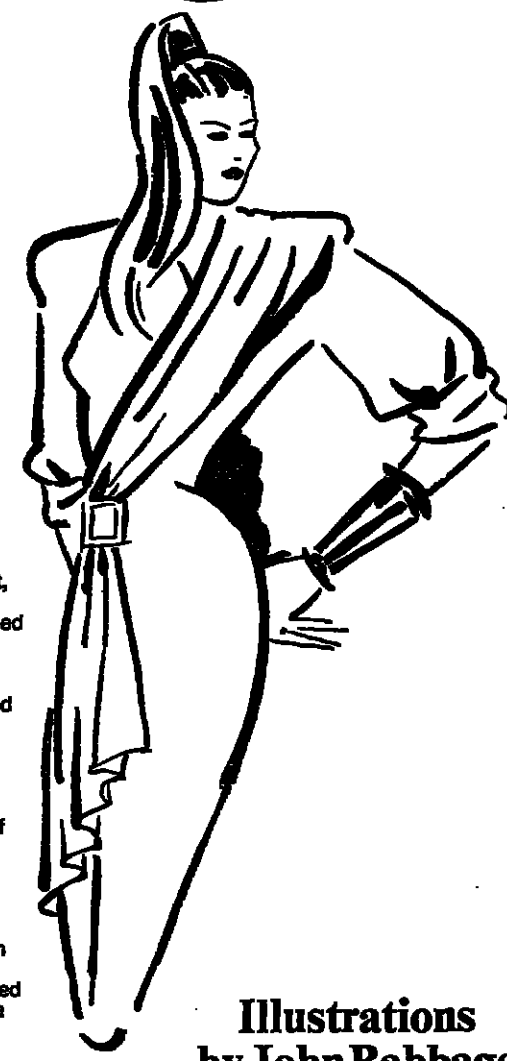
## Angela Gore



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KARL LAGERFELD: far left, curved, padded hips accentuating the waist, cinched in with a wide belt.  
CLAUDE MONTANA: left, S-shaped black suede dress outlining sophisticated new Paris silhouette.  
JEAN PAUL GAULTIER: top right, clinging tube skirt and frout-frout petticoat under a strictly tailored jacket for a whiff of gin-alley.  
THIERRY MUGLER: right, dress draped like a sari with sarong wrapped skirt made in buttermilk cotton poplin and worn with old gold jewellery.  
ISSEY MIYAKE: below, printed loin-cloth swimsuit under a feather-light silk coat which packs away into a tiny bag.

Illustrations by John Babbage



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# THE TIMES DIARY

## Message understood

Members of the Institution of Production Engineers are beginning to wonder about their president, Sir Alan Veale. Their IPE journal contains a record marked "An important message from the president, Sir Alan Veale, to all members of the IPE" and bearing the slogan "Cast a Vote for the Future." (Sir Alan, a director of GEC, is lobbying for votes in favour of a merger with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.) The four-minute record goes: "Now all you care about is your next to me. We are standing here together, just as proud as we can be. We save the world for caring folk, and when you care together, you become a family, a care bear family."

Sir Alan couldn't understand why I found his message surprising. "It's a very serious matter. The amalgamation goes out to ballot later this month... it will be a touch-and-go vote." Then I read him the words. Ray Miskin, the IPE secretary later said: "There's been a terrible mistake. It looks as if the wrong disc has been overprinted. And we've issued 20,000."

## Crash course

Bob Hardy, the AA's highways and traffic officer, was unable to attend RoSPA's national road safety conference in Harrogate yesterday. The previous night a car had failed to take a bend outside his Hampshire home, demolished the front of his house and embedded itself in his living room. "We know we need to drive home the need for care on the roads, but this is taking things too literally," he said.

## Short-lived

Don't assume that the "superheroic" stewardess who appears in the current TV ads for British Airways will look anything like the real one. Saatchi's have boobyed: the model's long blonde locks - which excited staff thought must indicate a change in policy - are strictly forbidden on board.

My note yesterday about the hapless Golders Green fruit-seller reminds a reader of a road sign. It read: "Golders Green 20 miles." Some was scrawled over it: "But to you, one-and-a-half."

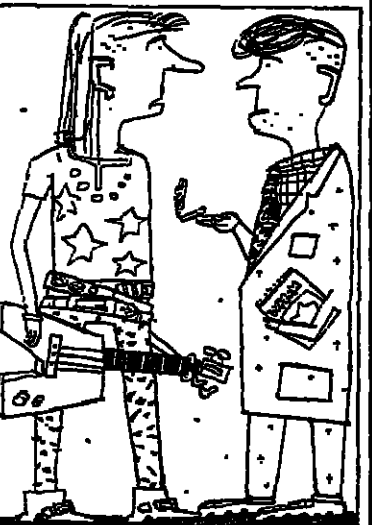
## Wrong types

The recent expulsion by the Eurocommunist majority in Finland of the Communist Party of eight Stalinist district organizations has not gone unpunished by Moscow. The Russians have transferred the printing contract for their international magazine *Spunitik* from the Eurocommunist-controlled printers to the Stalinists. Unfortunately the Stalinists' works has no spare capacity, so *Spunitik* is to be printed by the private Savaris Corporation - one of Finland's strongest bastions of capitalism.

## Own goal

Poor Sir George Young. I reported how, during the Tory conference, the junior environment minister had his bicycle dismantled "for security reasons" by the police. Now I learn of further disaster. As the local MP, he was invited to the Guinness suite at Queens Park Rangers at the weekend for the match against Manchester City. According to custom, a £1-a-head sweepstake was held on who would score the first goal. Sir George pulled out the home goalkeepers. Never mind, said the onlookers, generously offering him another go. You guessed it: out came the opposition's goalie.

BARRY FANTONI



## Off-spin

Ian Botham's financial Svengali, Tim Hudson, is spitting blood over a new book about England's most famous cricketer. The realization that the photo biography, *Botham*, put together by John Arlott and photographer Patrick Eagar, will not earn his client a penny has sent Hudson rushing to his lawyers in an attempt to secure a slice of the royalties. "They say it's never been tested in court. But if we took it to the people they would be outraged that Mr Botham, who has just finished the most incredible season, will be losing out," he says. "The word *Botham* is twice the size of the authors' names. If they'd called it *Great White Hope* or something, it wouldn't be so bad." Publishers Kingswood Press, a Heinemann imprint, were yesterday rubbing their eyes in disbelief. "No one would write about anybody if Mr Hudson got his way," a spokesman said.

PHS

# The great Thatcher jobs fraud

by Gordon Brown

For the past six years Conservative employment secretaries have been massaging the unemployment statistics by redefining unemployment. Now, with unemployment figures still rising, inventive talents are being brought to bear on the employment statistics.

Just as the jobs are being wished away, new jobs are wished into being. Lord Young told the Conservative conference that Britain's recent record in job creation is the best in Europe and that Britain now has a higher proportion of people in work than almost all our EEC competitors.

The official version is that 587,000 additional jobs have been created since the beginning of 1983. The figure includes a small rise in the number of employees - 194,000 - and a much larger boost of 393,000 in the numbers of self-employed. Almost all the new employees are part-time. Against the millions of unemployed, and two million lost jobs between 1979 and 1983, 587,000 is a small sum, but the true total of new jobs is smaller still by far.

The Government's figure for new jobs incorporates three separate dubious reckonings. Employees who have taken on a second job in 1983 and 1984 are counted twice. A teacher who has to pull pints of an evening to make ends meet has not only lost his evening's leisure: he has done his bit for Lord Young's statistics. He is two persons in employment - and there are another 100,000 in his position. Half the Government's reported increase in employees is accounted for by people like him: no one without a job is better off as a result.

Even less reality breaks into the Government's reckoning of the self-employed who account for only 10 per cent of the workforce but, amazingly, 66 per cent of new jobs.

The department's figure for the recent increase of self-employed - 393,000 - is a triumph of faith over evidence. The true figure will not be measured until 1991, the year of the next comprehensive census. Meanwhile Lord Young would have us believe that each week 5,000 people embark upon one-man venture capitalism. The departmental figure is reached by an extrapolation from a sample of 0.3 per cent of British households and is now being updated by 125,200 a year for no reason that anyone will discuss. If all these enterprising citizens exist they are so enterprising that many of their number are completely unknown to the Inland Revenue or the National Insurance authorities.

The statistics of faith also play a major part in the reported increase in employees. In a mysterious correction of previous underestimates the quarterly increase in 1983 was transformed from 33,900 to 45,500 on no substantive evidence that can be produced. Nothing can overcome the idiotic optimism of Lord Young's computer; no hard supporting data exists. It is an exercise in job creation by statistical projection.

With no true rise in employment, it is hardly surprising that there is no true fall in

unemployment. Last week Lord Young had to concede that to the 3.3 million officially registered unemployed had to be added at least 870,000 who were not officially registered.

To make unacceptable figures less palatable, a new concept in unemployment statistics has been introduced. By categorizing 200,000 of the unemployed as beneficiaries of the black economy and another 740,000 as undeserving for not genuinely seeking work, he has taken almost a million "out of unemployment".

These, presumably, are Jeffrey Archer's potential millionaires, if only they would get off their backsides. Lord Young's undeserving unemployed includes men and women who have been forced to accept retirement early, wives who need a wage packet but have had to stay at home, and the long-term out of work who have given up any hope of finding a job.

Lord Young has a financial background and presumably knows a little about counting things. Newly installed as Employment Secretary, he has performed a feat equivalent to taking an appalling balance sheet, inflating assets, minimizing the liabilities and producing an annual report that has taken optimism to the point of fraud. Presentation is one thing, creative accounting another. But Lord Young's treatment of the job statistics amounts to the invention of a new category of computer crime.

The author is Labour MP for Dunfermline East.

Peter Nichols asks if the Pope can build on his personal popularity

## Will he carry the church?



Rome. The Vatican drums are rolling in anticipation as the Pope prepares to face one of his biggest challenges yet: persuading the Roman Catholic church that his spectacular pontificate has been in keeping with policies set in the 1960s, and that they can thus be a springboard for further reform.

He has called a special synod of bishops which will be sitting next month in Rome to review the application of decisions made by the second Vatican Council, which ended its work exactly 20 years ago. The synod will be preceded by a meeting of the full Sacred College of Cardinals, who will hear the Pope's ideas for reforming the Roman Curia, the church's central administration.

Some 100 European bishops met in Rome recently under Cardinal Hume's chairmanship and this month also marks the seventh anniversary of the election of the Pope. Such an autumn of big occasions will be seen not only as an occasion to review the way the council's lead has been followed in the past, but the significance of his pontificate for the future.

The issue is essentially simple. In the past 25 years the Roman Catholic church has lived through two great historical events. The first was the four sessions of debates comprising the second Vatican Council which radically changed the church's approach to the modern world. The second has been the present papacy, which from its beginning was a success story, carrying the Holy See to its highest level of popularity in modern times. But do these two great events have anything in common?

The council was a collective attempt by the bishops to create a fresh relationship between the church and the world: the liturgy went into the vernacular and the teachings of the council included liberty of conscience, freedom for religious belief, a greater hand in the central government of the church for the bishops throughout the world, a weight within the structure of the church, and a more confident form of ecumenism. The pontificate of John Paul II is entirely an individual achievement. "It is" as one of his closest advisers put it in a tone somewhere between the rueful and the proud, "all him."

The Pope attended the council as a comparatively young Polish bishop. He was not a prominent figure. One of the people who

worked closely with him 20 years ago, and who remains a close associate, says that Karol Wojtyla was the only Polish bishop able to co-operate with the moderately progressive line of the council. Towards the end he was called to put forward the views of East Europeans. His contribution, in retrospect, was useful without being remarkable.

Why such lack of dash in a man who would later show so much of it? He was not yet a cardinal. He had been a bishop for only four months before John XXIII made the dramatic announcement of the summoning of a council, the first

bishop had been lived in the council's light. He might have said - but it is not the sort of thing that a Pope says in public - that one of the biggest liberal personalities at the council was Cardinal Koenig, who has just resigned the archbishopric of Vienna at the age of 80. Koenig was also one of the organizers of John Paul II's election as Pope, a fact which ought to reassure critics who fear that the Pope is not in tune with the council's attitude.

The atmosphere is very different now from the enthusiasm and euphoria 20 years ago, when the church was enjoying unaccustomed intellectual vigour and liberty as well as widespread acclaim for the frankness with which it was facing its problems.

A favourite phrase of John XXIII, "the signs of the times", is the key to the Catholic Church's dilemma. The signs have now changed and John Paul II has sensed it: that is why his pontificate is such a new departure. According to one reading, he is simply correcting the balance by countering the elitist intellectual stamp which the council placed on the church with its regard for the masses and his demand for old-fashioned discipline.

But the Pope is too large a personality simply to be characterized as a conservative. That is why many people hope that his forthcoming review of the past 20 years will reveal something of how he intends dealing with the next 20. Are there signs that he will do this?

"I trust so," was the reply of a prominent Vatican figure. "We may have been too intellectual at the council and too little concerned with purely pastoral matters. Perhaps the theologians were given too big a role. Now we are running the risk of exaggerating in the opposite direction. Intellect counts for too little. The persons around the Pope are of poor intellectual standing. And he himself, between one journey and another, is devoting dangerously little time to reading and studying. His speeches are written less and less by him. Everyone, and a Pope no less, should be free to do what he does well. But the cost cannot be too high."

The real test for the Pope in the next few months is whether he will be able to move ahead from his huge personal success and gather around him that class dubbed "orphans of the council" people who may not know exactly what they are looking for, but who would be won over by a fresh lead from John Paul II.

## A city struggling to find its virtue

Frankfurt. With the annual international book fair ended, Frankfurt resumed its struggle this week to resist the tide of most boring city in Europe, a title once, one of the most boring of those international polls of businessmen.

In recent years Frankfurt, which is West Germany's financial and business centre and therefore much dependent on the sort of people who take part in polls of businessmen, has waged this struggle with increasing determination.

Being rich, it has the usual office towers. But being very rich, it can afford to make them from a better class of concrete, glass or metal, as London cannot. So, as in Manhattan, the light often catches the towers, in such a way as to make them gleam. To us below, that suggests great deeds in the boardroom of the kind made exciting by American business magazines. But we suspect that what is really happening up there is that German bankers are trying to make Frankfurt's night life sound exciting to visiting Japanese bankers.

Much of the city seems to be engaged in an endeavour to present Frankfurt as a place of unexpected delights, when what many of us value is its dependability and successful fusion of conservatism and modernity. Even when it thinks it is being wicked, Frankfurt is really being dependable. "No Aids", say signs in German and English outside the Eros Centre.

An Eros Centre, an institution common to all large cities in the Federal Republic, is a combination of "sex shop" and legalized brothel. The "No Aids" signs presumably

refer to the horrifyingly fashionable disease rather than announcing that the "sex shop" is temporarily out of stock of the "marital aids" it used to sell in happier times. (The term "marital aids" because of its ability to inspire a unique terror, must by now have fallen into disuse.)

Whatever the precise meaning of the inscription, Aids is said to have reduced the attractions of the Eros Centre to those people who take part in international polls of businessmen. Reactions to this in the city are mixed. The Christian Democratic mayor and council disapprove of the Eros Centre and the area round it, but are at the mercy of the liberalism on which the West German state, for excusable historical reasons, is founded. They have tried to

discourage activity in the district by high rates, but at the same time they are worried that the tiresome businessmen might find a chaste Frankfurt even more boring.

The businessmen might be reduced to trying the opera. Under director Michael Gielen, this is probably now the best house in West Germany. But, as if contributing to Frankfurt's struggle to be interesting, it has "interesting" productions. Thus, in Frankfurt, Aida, which should take place in ancient Egypt, actually takes place in the 20th century and in a museum of Egyptology. The tenor hero, who should be an Egyptian soldier, is here a museum director in a business suit who, during the orchestral prelude, falls

asleep at his desk after a hard day at the office and dreams it all.

One of this Aida's duties is to wash the floor with cloth and pail. The great scene by the Nile, in which Aida's captured Ethiopian father persuades her to let him overhear the hero revealing a military secret, here takes place in a bedroom. The father does the overhearing not from behind a palm tree, but inside a cupboard. All this is, of course, very boring.

There remains the book fair. To someone visiting it for the first time, this seemed to be one of the most interesting annual events on earth. In one superbly organized building, the visitor can wander about discovering, in virtually any part of the world, which authors are being published, which people are being written about. In some countries, including the Soviet Union, Britain and North Korea, the authors being published are also the people being written about (respectively, Lenin, various vets and television cooks, and Mr Kim Il Sung).

The British stands included one displaying the wares of a remainder house, a buyer in bulk of books publishers no longer want to keep. Such a stand could be taken as evidence that we are an uncommercial nation. But to bring remaindered books to this famous fair could be a sign of a great social self-confidence among the world's hucksters. Who knows Britain, or any other country, who has not seen her in Frankfurt? But if only Frankfurt would know itself.



Frankfurt: gleaming, affluent; but restless about its role

Matthew Parris

## Bad ideas that go unchecked

Hands up all who remember the Price-Check scheme. No? It was big news in 1976: the jewel in the crown of the Ministry of Prices and Consumer Protection. A marvellous plan and the subject of a leading article in *The Guardian*.

The idea was this: on joining the scheme (which was voluntary) shopkeepers promised (on their honour) not to put up the prices of certain basic goods by more than 5 per cent for at least six months. In return they were allowed to display little red triangles, so shoppers would know. A kit with red plastic stickers and chatty leaflets, was provided free by the ministry.

The minister at the time was Shirley Williams. The full genius of the idea cannot have been recognized, for she was demoted and made Education Secretary and the scheme did not long survive her. But it lives on in my mind - a little forgotten flower of an idea, pressed between the pages of modern history.

It sums up, for me, what is so special about Social Democratic thinking: a marriage of all that is best in the free market with what is wisest in planned economy: a harnessing of the dynamism of individual enterprise and the prudence of responsible government.

Regrettably the scheme was a total flop. Shopkeepers either put up prices before joining Price-Check or joined and then recouped their losses by charging more for all the goods it didn't cover. Most did both. The only demonstrable consequence of the scheme was an increase in the cost of 40-watt light bulbs (excluded from the scheme) to defray losses on 60-watt bulbs (which were included) and a new definition of 5.8 per cent as "5 per cent, rounded" - which is how the ministry described an increase in the price of bread. "The scheme is catching on," announced the ministry - and then scrapped it.

But let that not sully the conceptual beauty of the idea. Who, after all, could have guessed that people would be so selfish? Not Mrs Williams. Not her permanent secretary. Not the chairman of the Price Commission.

The Price-Check scheme was not problematical. It was, obviously, unquestionably ludicrous. There was never the remotest chance that it would work.

So who thought of it? If it was a politician, and his protesting civil servant was overruled, then only the politician is to blame. If, however, it was a civil servant's idea, and politicians failed to weed it out, then the official's career should be in ruins and the politicians dismissed as credulous fools. In the corridors of Whitehall, ambitious young principals would snigger as an aging lift attendant with a somehow distinguished expression shuffled to his post: "He was Permanent Secretary, you know. Before Price-Check." Smart political commentators would discuss whether the scandal had subsided enough yet for Dr Owen to bring back Mrs Williams into the Cabinet.

In reality, none of these things has happened. The minister has become

president of the SDP: the chairman of the Price Commission has become a peer, a Tory cabinet minister and a European commissioner (in that order) - so I am sure they are not to blame and could sure they are not to blame and could explain who was. But nobody cares. Nobody cares at all, now, and nobody cared much at the time. Why should they? The Price-Check scheme was only a minor adornment to public policy. It never hurt a soul. The public, sagely, ignored it from the start. Shopkeepers more than protected themselves, and the whole thing can only have wasted a million or so in public funds.

If the failure was not financially crippling, neither was it morally interesting. There was no fraud, and alcohol, or adultery or simple incompetence is not news. We must all a matter of opinion. We must all know whether our masters dye their hair, cry in the bathroom, or are related to Nazis. But whether they are competent or not - well, that's hardly a fair question: some things, surely, must stay private. Gross indecency may be "in the public domain" but gross incompetence is a matter for the privacy of one's bedroom.

So the headline "Price-Check: we name the guilty men", the *Mirror* serialization of his private secretary's coffee-breaks - and Tam Dalyell's relentless, pedestrian questions about the destination of confidential advice - none of this will come to pass.

When I joined the Foreign Office, one of our first instructions was how to pin together the leaves of a Submission to Ministers. The sharp end of the pin must enter the papers from the top, pierce through the back, return to surface, and finally plunge back through the top hole - sheathed, thus, against all possibility of pricking a ministerial finger. Less said is soonest mended. I thought nothing was said about the consequences for my career of its proving wrong.

A couple of years later, shortly before leaving the Foreign Office, I read a "valedictory despatch" from a retiring ambassador. He had never advanced beyond postings to minor countries and displayed a bitterness which is, perhaps, permissible once only in a man's career - at the end. His despatch recalled that he could remember five or six important occasions, during his service, when his clear advice had been overruled. On each occasion subsequent events had proved him resoundingly right - sometimes weeks, more often months or years after the decision. He did not suppose that this had made the slightest difference to his career. He did not suppose, even, that anyone had noticed.

"The House of Commons," I thought, "will be different." I am less certain of that now. I often mention Price-Check at dinner parties - but people stare at me oddly and revert to discussing Mrs Keays.

The author is Conservative MP for Derbyshire West.

moreover... Miles Kingston

## Anything legal considered

The Law And You: A lawyer answers your questions about British justice, the most complicated indoor game ever invented.

I recently went to see a solicitor about getting a second mortgage on my house. He asked me to sign a few forms, which I did. When I got home that evening, I found that the solicitor had moved into my house, together with his family. Apparently the forms I had signed gave him complete ownership. Can I complain to the Law Society about this?

You can if you like, but a fat lot of good it will do you. The Law Society only entertains complaints in order to back up the solicitor. The most that would happen if you asked them to look into it would be that the Law Society ended up owning the house instead of the solicitor. I cannot stress too often that you must never sign anything in a solicitor's office.

In an emergency, can a solicitor have the power to marry two people? No. This is trigamy.

My mother-in-law has been persistently cheating at cards for over 30 years and I have decided finally to make a stand. Can I take her to court over it?

It might be possible to bring an action under the Gaming Act of 1903, but prosecutions have not always been successful. In 1924 a Mr Whitaker sued a man he had met on a transatlantic liner for taking £5,000 off him during a game of poker, on the grounds that the man had an endless supply of aces; the court agreed that the man had been cheating but said its jurisdiction did not stretch to the mid-Atlantic. The same Mr Whitaker sued another man in 1930 for cheating at dominoes in a pub in Somerset, but the court said that cheating at dominoes was a well-established rural custom and found for the defendant. Again in 1936, Mr Whitaker sued a man for cheating at bezique. The judge did not know the rules of the game and had to be taught; indeed, he learnt so well that he took £30 off Mr Whitaker during the course of the trial.

Finally, we find Mr Whitaker in 1943 suing his own wife for persistently under-bidding at bridge. Amazingly, he won this case, but only on condition he never sued anyone ever again.

Yes, but should I sue my mother-in-law?

I would not recommend it. Try cheating back.

The man next door is always throwing bottles into my garden. What action can I take? Get the monkey back on the bottles.

When the Channel Tunnel is finally built, what traffic laws will apply in the tunnel? I mean, will we come under French or English regulations? I believe the intention is that English laws will apply until halfway. At that point we will all start driving on the right. The contrailow system involved is reckoned to add another £10m to the cost of the project. If you cause an accident in the English half you will be dealt with by the English police; if you infringe the laws in the French half, you will be shot by a French policeman.

I work in a sensitive intelligence installation not far from Cheltenham. Recently I was approached by a Russian gentleman who proposed that I should write a regular column for *Pravda*, describing the day-to-day workings of my job and the sort of cases that pass through my hands. Do you think I should accept what, on the face of it, seems a harmless journalistic undertaking?

Certainly not. *Pravda* pays very badly; they will also syndicate your articles without any further payment. A year or two ago I went for an interview at the BBC for the job of TV producer. They asked me what kind of programme ideas I had and I mentioned a few, such as a history of war narrated by Frederick Forsyth and a dramatization of Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night*. Although I did not get the job, I now find that all my ideas have been turned into major BBC series. How can I obtain redress for this?

It's difficult. It is well-known that this is the way the BBC gets all its ideas. Whenever they are running short of ideas, they arrange a series of just interviews and ask the candidates for programme suggestions. They even have the nerve sometimes to steal ideas from newspapers.

I am a BBC TV producer and I have been reading your legal advice column with some interest. I think there may be a programme in it. Could we have an expensive lunch sometime and talk it over? Absolutely, old boy. Any time you like.

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## NASSAU AND PRETORIA

The latest package of sanctions against Pretoria seems calculated more to keep the Commonwealth together than pull South Africa apart. This would seem to be so anyway as far as Britain is concerned - and Britain is concerned most of all.

It will not be without any impact upon this country's links with the Cape. Nine Government-assisted trade missions aimed at raising British exports have so far been there this year (one is out there at present), and one joint Anglo-South African trade fair has so far taken place while another is planned for next month. So the imminent end of official funding for such commercial ventures will be felt - though which country suffers the more is a very moot point.

But the ban on the sale of gold kruggerands touches upon a business now worth only some £500,000 a year. Nor are there any outstanding Government loans to South Africa, which puts the commitment to take on no more in some kind of perspective. As for the other sanctions agreed in Nassau, or rather Lyford Cay, Britain has already enacted them, recently through the EEC if not before.

The follow-up measures to be brought in by the Commonwealth in six months time should President Botha make insufficient progress towards ending apartheid are from Britain's point of view more serious. On the other hand the

Government has not committed itself to supporting these and the Commonwealth hawks will have no easy job in persuading it. It had given way "a tiny little bit" said Mrs Thatcher grudgingly at the end of their weekend retreat, which fairly accurately if inelegantly describes her position.

The mandatory measures demanded by the more strident members of the Commonwealth would be imprecise, counter-productive and would damage this country's interests most of all. But this does not mean that inaction is the answer. Indeed if non-violent change is to come about, some movement is imperative by those outside as well as inside South Africa. In this context the most constructive part of the Heads of Government meeting in Nassau is that which refers to the establishment of a group of Commonwealth statesmen who can play a prompt role in Pretoria's long-running tragedy. Whether Mr Botha is likely to fully welcome their intervention is extremely doubtful; only yesterday his government spokesman was underlining his determination to settle South Africa's problems on his own.

But it is a positive as opposed to a negative step by an organization to which South Africa once belonged and which contains a number of its near or immediate neighbours. Whether the Commonwealth can produce the diplomatic skills which are now needed is another question.

But the matter will be made none the worse by trying.

There is for instance a clear argument now in favour of setting up a national convention in South Africa, with outside governments (from the Commonwealth?) perhaps acting as intermediaries in preparing the ground. The release of Nelson Mandela is a pre-requisite, without which even the leaders of moderate black opinion like Bishop Tutu or the Zulu Chief Buthelezi are unlikely to take part. The issue of participation by the African National Congress is something which will have to be addressed at some stage. It is hard to see this happening now but if Pretoria remains obdurate it may find it has left things too late.

In the end it is pressure from within South Africa not without that will push Pretoria towards a solution. It is the business community, which shares an essential inter-dependence with the black population, which has so far made the running in the path towards reform, and it will continue to be so. Apartheid has within it the seeds of its own destruction because it is incompatible with the economic growth to which the country aspires. By tightening their own code of behaviour towards black employees, foreign companies too can play a part in furthering peaceful change. But when President Botha says that South Africa will sort out its problems on its own he is perhaps even closer to the truth than he thinks.

## MAKING, GIVING AND ADJUSTING LAWS

Medical technology and practice, the emancipation of women and children, sexual precocity, and ethical fragmentation had given rise to an officially authorized practice that came to be challenged at law, the Gillick case. The law, not being abreast of these developments, gave forth an uncertain sound. The judges had to repair its deficiency. That was the function of the speeches of the law lords last week. The speeches repay perusal for the light they throw on the part the supreme court plays in making the law.

One is struck first of all by how malleable is the material of the law in high judicial hands. Five judges reached three destinations by strikingly different techniques. Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, for instance, took his stand on the one bit of really solid ground in the whole business: sections 5 and 6 of the Sexual Offences Act 1956, which make sexual intercourse with a girl under 16 years of age a criminal offence. By a sequence of moves of rat-trap logic he swooped from there to the conclusion that no one may lawfully provide or approve contraceptive treatment for a girl under 16, not even the parent, not even a court (Lord Brandon being of the opinion that Butler-Sloss J., who did just that, had erred).

Lord Scarman's approach, and that of two other judges with whom he agreed, was to search the treasury of the common law

for a relevant principle, strip from it encrustations of past time and circumstance, and apply it to the social conditions of today. The relevant principle of common law in this case, as he enunciated it, is that "parental rights are derived from parental duty and exist only so long as they are needed for the protection of the person and property of the child." "Nor has our law ever treated the child as other than a person with capacities and rights recognized by law." The question of when the parent's right to decide is superseded by the child's own discretion the law will regard as an empirical question turning upon the facts of the case, in the absence of a general statutory rule.

Lord Scarman's approach to judicial law-giving - development of the common law by the elucidation of its settled principles and their adaptation to the conditions of today - is the one most likely to commend itself to the public, even to some of those who may dislike the conclusion on this occasion, Lord Scarman, as it happens, is the foremost judicial proponent of a bill of rights, now that the present Lord Chancellor's enthusiasm has been tempered by office. And a bill of rights whatever else it does is sure to enlarge the law-making function of the judiciary as decisions and even statutes come to be reassessed in the light of its large, loose and declaratory provisions.

Neither sympathy with Lord Scarman's faith in the creative possibilities of the common law nor perusal of other law lords' approaches to judicial law-making brings on an appetite for bills of rights where the appetite is not already present. For another thing that strikes one about the judgments is the extent to which each judge's declaration of what the law is conforms to his plain-man's opinion of what society requires. The speeches are of a much higher order than most of those reported daily in *Hansard* from the law lords' own house or the other, but they are to quite a considerable extent working the same seam - adducing political considerations in the widest sense of the word with a view to adjusting the laws under which we live.

To withdraw from the judges, in the name of the separation of powers, the scope for law-giving they now possess would be to remove a sensitive mechanism of adjustment. But to enlarge the scope by introducing new tests of validity calling for judicial scrutiny would be to alter the balance of the constitution to the disadvantage of elective office. One almost certain consequence would be the politicization of the higher judiciary. It would not be long before a prime minister or lord chancellor began packing the judicial committee of the House of Lords in order to safeguard the government's legislative objectives.

## FREEDOM VIA CULTURE

To judge from the opening week of the Budapest Cultural Forum it may make a significant contribution to that slow and painful attempt to heal some of Europe's multiple fractures which we call the "Helsinki process". The initial statements of delegation leaders from the 35 signatory states did not conceal the gulf which separates the Soviet socialist concept of culture, most lethally expounded (in Russian) by the representative of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, from all the other concepts of culture represented at the Forum. As Mr St John Stevas put it in an admirable speech, "the freedom of the individual is the seminal idea that lies at the heart of the European idea of culture... the freedom to read, to write, to compose, free from any kind of fear or censorship". In this "Western" view, the role of the state must be to encourage and not support cultural activity and not as in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia today to prescribe and proscribe it. Because of this great divide, the Budapest Cultural Forum will almost certainly not end with one comprehensive agreement about the role of signatory states in the role of signatory states in the role of signatory states. But it may yet produce a number of more modest agreements, some formal, some informal, some multilateral, some bilateral.

There is, for example, the important West German proposal to allow all participant states to establish cultural institutes in each other's capitals. There is the question of translating the lesser known European literatures into more widely known languages. There is the problem of some of the best artists from Eastern Europe not being allowed to travel to the West. If any progress is made on such issues, the inter-governmental proceedings may be accounted a success.

Equally important, however, is the success of what quickly came to be known in Budapest as the "unofficial forum", a fascinating three-day meeting of intellectuals from East and West organized by the non-governmental International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights to complement the official meeting. The Hungarian government debarred this unofficial meeting from its planned venue - a hotel conference room - but did not prevent it from going ahead in a private flat, where it was open not only to foreign guests and journalists but above all to Hungarians. Beside the extraordinary fact of it happening at all, the importance of this "unofficial forum" did not lie mainly in the western participants' contribution. There was nothing they said there which they could not have said as delegates to the official forum,

and much of it will indeed be said many times by western official delegates over the next few weeks.

Its importance lay rather in the contributions from countries whose cultures are not truly or fully represented at the official forum. Here, Hungarian intellectuals could speak freely about the intricate net of censorship and self-censorship inside which they have to work, and about the plight of their persecuted compatriots in neighbouring Romania. Here, exiled Czech writers could describe the massacre of Czech and Slovak culture since 1968, a massacre carried out by precisely those dreadful bureaucratic hacks who now - as in a macabre parody - purport to represent Czechoslovak culture at the official forum.

This is why the "unofficial forum" was an essential complement to the official one. As the Foreign Secretary has repeatedly emphasized, the "Helsinki process" is only of value if unofficial as well as official people have a full part in it and that is doubly true in the world of the arts, which states may hinder or foster, but individuals alone create. Both the official and the unofficial Budapest forums are the "first" in the history of Eastern Europe. It is to be hoped that they will not also be the last, but may be repeated in other capitals and on other themes.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Implications of the Gillick ruling

From Dr R. L. Marshall

Sir, In the judgments on the Gillick case (Law Report, October 18), the arguments of the majority seem to me weaker than those of the minority and very dangerous to the quality of our society. That is, of course, a matter of opinion. It is, however, a matter of fact that the majority fail to give to one element important to their arguments the elaboration and support needed if the arguments are to stand.

In the majority Lord Fraser favours discretion for the doctor to give to a girl under 16 contraceptive advice or treatment, provided the doctor satisfies himself on five conditions concerning the girl's interests and intentions. These conditions, including a very comprehensive one of satisfying himself about serving the "girl's best interests", would involve the doctor in a careful and protracted consideration.

Has Lord Fraser, or anyone else, examined and assessed the facts about the resources of time and skill available to the hard-pressed family practitioner for such consideration? Or indeed has he, or anyone else (including the BMA), examined the record of such consideration by doctors in exercising their discretion in the past?

Without such evidence there is a lack of the "realistic" quality in the judgement which Lord Fraser calls for elsewhere in it. Yours faithfully, R. L. MARSHALL, Holly Cottage, 15 Beacon Road, Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire, October 19.

From Mr C. George Lamb

Sir, Are other laymen as bemused by the legal decisions surrounding the Gillick case as I am? I read your Law Report's summary of Lord Fraser's judgement, a sensible statement of contemporary morality, and then I read the opinions of Lords Brandon and Templeman that in law it would not be permissible to give contraceptive treatment to a minor. How can such pre-eminent lawyers reach such totally contradictory decisions on what is lawful?

I can accept that on the finer points of law there may be the occasional difference of legal opinion, but is it acceptable that our lives should be controlled by such random factors as who happens to be sitting in judgement in a particular case?

As your own leading article (October 18) points out, in the current case nine senior lawyers have given their opinions and Mrs Gillick has a lead of five to four, but because three were merely lords justices their opinions are of no account. Yet had the area health authority not been able to call upon the resources of the public purse, and had to forgo its appeal to the Lords, Mrs Gillick would have been left the victor and the legal position reversed. Is it really a satisfactory situation that the fate and the chance lottery of which judges hear a case should decide a matter of such public importance? I fear it does little to raise our respect and trust in the law.

Yours sincerely, GEORGE C. LAMB, 62 Oxford Road, Stone, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, October 18.

From Dr Neville Davis

Sir, The final judgement in the Gillick case has drawn attention to a serious anomaly. If it is allowed by law that a girl under the age of 16 is sufficiently mature to be allowed to sue for herself that she will practise contraception for the purpose of sexual intercourse, it should follow that she is equally mature to decide that she will practise sexual intercourse itself. As Lord Brandon has pointed out, the

serious criminal offence is to be her sexual partner.

One of the more distasteful tasks which police surgeons are called upon to perform is to undertake a full sexual investigation (as if she has been raped) of a young teenage girl, brought into a police station against her will by irate parents, often in the small hours, who have willingly indulged in (and, dare it be said, actually enjoyed) sexual intercourse. The nominal purpose of this exercise is to obtain forensic evidence to convict her partner, perhaps equally young, for "leading her astray". He, too, has to submit to this indignity.

Quite apart from the burden of guilt which this procedure links to normal, healthy sexuality, since the girls themselves are often the leaders rather than the led in these situations, is it not high time that the age of consent was lowered to a more realistic level?

What that should be is, of course, a judgement in itself. Yours faithfully, NEVILLE DAVIS (Hon Secretary, Metropolitan & City Group, Association of Police Surgeons of Great Britain), Brownlow Medical Centre, 140-142 Brownlow Road, N11, October 18.

From Mrs Diana McKinley

Sir, Perhaps someone could explain to this struggling mother why my daughters will be unable to buy cigarettes, alcohol or fireworks under the age of 16 (presumably because they are not yet considered mature enough to make decisions about such matters) yet at the same time they will be regarded as mentally and physically mature enough to make decisions about the health hazards resulting from sexual intercourse; and that, while I will have redress in law against those who sell my children harmful substances, I will not against doctors who prescribe possibly damaging chemicals, thereby encouraging them to risk their health and break the law?

Yours in confusion, DIANA MCKINLEY, 74 Abbeville Road, SW4, October 18.

From Mr R. M. H. Edmonds

Sir, The Law Lords' majority decision to allow the supply of contraceptives to girls under 16 without parental consent does not leave a parent powerless. All three alternative judgements emphasized that doctors could act lawfully only if their decision to supply contraceptives was taken after stringent and extensive counselling which resulted in the conclusion that the girl's physical and mental health would be likely to suffer. An aggrieved parent still has the right apparently to challenge whether a doctor's conclusion to supply was reasonable in all the circumstances.

As Lord Scarman stated, "the present case was the beginning, not the conclusion, of a legal development in a field not yet fully explored".

Yours sincerely, R. M. H. EDMONDS, 22 Hillsborough Park, Camberley, Surrey, October 19.

From Mrs Nicholas Roskill

Sir, I am far from being a feminist, but there is something rather distressing about five men (however distinguished, intelligent and even wise) being the sole judges and final arbiters in a legal case which is concerned exclusively with the welfare of girls. Is there not room for some form of family court to arbitrate in such matters?

Yours faithfully, JULIA ROSKILL, 56 Grove Lane, Camberwell Green, SE5, October 18.

### Starvation in Ethiopia

From Sir Douglas Busk

Sir, Your correspondent Richard Pankhurst (feature, October 11) is certainly aware, as you probably are, too, that starvation in Ethiopia is not due to lack of money from outside sources, nor to lack of devotion by charitable organizations on the ground.

The main blame falls on Mengistu who, at the behest of his Soviet bosses, has for years been conducting a brutal civil war in what used to be a peaceful country, accompanied by deportations of many of the inhabitants to areas unfamiliar to them, where they also starve.

If Mengistu calls an end to the war, rehabilitation in Ethiopia and Eritrea could commence.

Yours etc, DOUGLAS BUSK, Broxton House, Chislehurst, Middlesex, Hampshire, October 12.

### Official secrets

From the Lord Chancellor

Sir, The Lords Hansard for October 16 contains the following interchange between myself and Lord Hailsham of Lusby (incidentally correctly reported in your columns): Lord Hailsham of Lusby... May I ask the noble and learned Lord just one question quite outside the ambit of the legal position? Does he agree with me that it would be most unfortunate, in view of the prosecution of Sarah Tiedall and Clive Ponting for passing unclassified information, if it were even to be thought of public opinion that there is one law for civil servants and another for politicians?

The Lord Chancellor: My Lords, I never comment on judicial proceedings which have been concluded. Today, in a letter to *The Times*, Mr "Des" Wilson (who in the circumstances rather quaintly de-

scribes himself as the Chairman of the Campaign for Freedom of Information), describes Lord Hailsham's remark to myself, and then criticizes me for making it. Mr Wilson would do well to reflect that whether or not information be free it should at least be accurate.

When you have both removed the egg from your faces it may occur to each of you that you owe to Lord Hailsham an apology (and possibly also one to me).

Yours etc, HAILSHAM, House of Lords, October 18.

### Building upwards

From Mr J. R. Ford

Sir, Your feature, "Towers of power" (October 11) suggests that the world's first skyscraper was the Equitable Life Association building in New York. Built in 1870, it was seven storeys high.

What about Edinburgh's "old town" tenements? Restricted by the city's ancient walls, they had to be built upwards, with people of all ranks sharing a common stair which was effectively a vertical street. Baillie Robertson's was 15 storeys high to the rear; two storeys higher than its neighbours. It was built two hundred years before its New York rival: in 1670.

Of course, skyscraper purists will correctly point out that such buildings did not have an iron or steel frame. They were made of stone. The walls are eight or ten feet thick, exceeding strong, not built for a day, a week, a month, or a year, but from antiquity to posterity, for many ages. (Taylor's *Pennines Pilgrimage*).

I wonder if the same could be said of today's skyscrapers? Yours faithfully, JOHN R. FORD, 9 Fettes Row, Edinburgh.

### Putting a value on teacher's craft

From the Head Master of Bristol Cathedral School

Sir, The esteem in which teachers' professionalism is held was illuminated for me last week when I received from an examinations syndicate a cheque for £8. This was for teacher assessment of one A-level music candidate, nine O-level music candidates and 16 O-level computer studies candidates.

Assessment for each A-level music candidate takes from 10-15 minutes, and for O-level from 7-10 minutes, excluding time allowed for examining candidates at both levels in sight-singing. In computer studies, where three programmes from each candidate have to be run, written descriptions checked and their validity assessed, the time involved is about two hours per candidate.

These total times amount to some 33½ hours, which works out at a rate of 24p an hour.

I recognise that such a sum is not strictly to be considered as "payment". In the light of this, however, a financially hard-pressed profession facing increased commitments in training for and implementing the practical aspects of the forthcoming GCSE examinations may be forgiven for feeling like "the poor cat in the adage", decreasingly likely in pay negotiations to let "I dare not wait upon 'I would'".

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER MARTIN, Head Master, Bristol Cathedral School, College Square, Bristol, Avon, October 14.

### Taxing student grants

From Mr S. A. Harris

Sir, I shall be supporting my son through university, paying him the equivalent of a full maintenance grant by means of a tax covenant. In principle, this should mean he is neither better nor worse off than someone on a full maintenance grant from his local authority.

To my astonishment, however, I find that the tax treatment of students is completely different according to whether their grant comes from public funds or from their parents. In the first instance, a publicly funded grant does not count against the student's personal tax allowance, whereas when the student receives the same income, but from his parents, it does count.

The implications are the reverse of what both common sense and any considerations of fairness between different classes of students would dictate. The student funded by his parents has a positive disincentive to support himself by working during vacations as his earnings are liable to tax. Whereas the student supported by public funds may cheerfully work in vacations, without fear of having to pay tax, as he still has his full personal tax allowance available.

May I suggest that this situation is bizarre and should be rectified immediately so that all students, no matter how they are supported, are in an equal position for tax purposes and that students have an incentive to support themselves during vacations, in so far as this may be possible.

Yours faithfully, S. A. HARRIS, 6 Redgrave Road, Putney, SW15, October 8.

### Role of referee

From the General Secretary of the Secondary Heads Association

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Patrick Lewin (October 17) has highlighted a difficulty faced by many people who are asked to act as referees, and especially by headteachers. Offers of jobs are frequently made subject to satisfactory references, and when an offer is withdrawn after an unsatisfactory report the unsuccessful candidate is naturally aggrieved. We have cases on record where legal action has followed.

The Secondary Heads Association has a firm policy of advising members not to write references about pupils who have already been offered a job. Although our policy has the formal approval of the CBI, we find that many well-known commercial undertakings, particularly high street shopping chains, persist in seeking references after an offer.

In their own interests referees should refuse to act in these circumstances. Yours faithfully, T. P. SNAPE, General Secretary, Secondary Heads Association, 107 St Paul's Road, N1, October 17.

### The best of British

From Mr Lyon Roussel

Sir, I was very glad to see such prominence given to "The Treasure Houses of Britain" exhibition in your edition of October 16, and delighted, of course, to be "mentioned in despatches" as having sown the seeds of the idea when serving as cultural attaché in Washington.

May I take this opportunity to make the point, and forcibly, that our relationship, cultural or otherwise, with the United States is not something that can be taken for granted as all too many of us in Britain tend to assume.

Americans of British descent are, and have for long been, a minority; there are many other powerful and competing cultural influences in this highly sophisticated market.

I was always deeply touched by the warmth of feeling towards Britain, but this was far from uncritical. We often seemed to be to the Americans complacently old-maidish in a country where "impossible" is a ten letter word.

## ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 22 1917

Lord Northcliffe was proprietor of *The Times* 1908-1922. He possessed an accomplishment which distinguished him from his predecessors and successors - he was a consummate journalist. The extract below is from one of the many colourful articles he wrote for the paper.

### FORD'S MECHANICAL MIRACLE

By Lord Northcliffe

NEW YORK, Oct. 19. Henry Ford, the millionaire anti-military, is a good-looking, thin-visaged, ascetic of 54, whose appearance mingles that of the Bishop of London and Sir John Hare. Originally seized of the belief that Germany could be argued to peace, he is now throwing his inventive genius, energy, and capital into the prosecution of such an effective waging of this war as will, he believes, bring about the end of all wars. His particular weapon is a miracle of mechanical ingenuity, the Ford Tractor, which promises to revolutionize farm work as completely as the Ford Car has changed cheap automobile transit.

The tractor itself is a small piece of machinery about the length of a Ford motor-car. It can be used either as a stationary engine, or to propel ploughs, mowing machines, reapers and binders. The 1917 pattern, which Mr. Ford is building for England for the purpose of fighting the submarine menace is 25 horse-power. It is literally true that a boy or girl with neither mechanical nor agricultural knowledge can drive it. I mounted the tractor and ploughed a half-mile furrow with ease and accuracy at a speed of between three and four miles an hour, and with no time lost at turning...

### TRACTORS AT WORK

My first impression of the tractor was of a ridiculously small machine dragging three huge wagons containing steel girders for the construction of the tractor factory. A few miles further on Mr. Ford pointed quickly to what at a mile distance looked like a beetle crawling over the land. "Those are the tractors," he said. We were impatient to get to them, but before we reached them Mr. Ford asked us to look at the vast factory which is being erected night and day for their making. These long low American "plants" seem to have grown with the rapidity of grass. No time is wasted in solid construction at a time when the submarine fight against England necessitates the quick manufacture of tractors. I saw heavy automatic tools working under cover on what had been wheat land ten days before. This is a night and day country in such work as this.

The specific work we were to witness was ploughing by tractor. Mr. Oliver, whose family have been making ploughs for a century, was introduced as the inventor of the tiny plough which proves so successful on every kind of soil and every angle of undulation. Roughly speaking the tractor resembles one of the early racing motors, with a very long bonnet. It is low, steered by a wheel, and when pulling a set of disc harrows seems fairly to romp across the country. It is started with petrol and driven by paraffin. It has a strong electric head light, so that it may just as easily plough by night as by day. In a few minutes the machine can be adapted to stationary work. It is difficult to arrive at its cost at the present moment, but Mr. Ford's eventual idea is that one day, when the war is over and things are normal, it may be sold to small farmers at less than £100. Just now it is necessary to put every tractor through a grueling test before it is sent to England. The tests we witnessed were of such a nature as to astonish us that the metal could stand the strain imposed, light as is the present machine...

During the time we were viewing the demonstration at the farm nobody made any reference to the other giant factory and the town which has arisen around it where Mr. Ford ejects 3,000 complete motor-cars and motor-wagons every day. I asked to see it. The factory itself has a daily permanent population of 41,000. The main building alone occupies a space which I might describe by the square bounded on the North by Holborn, on the South by Fleet-street, on the West by Chancery-lane, and on the East by Farringdon-street. It is growing so rapidly that the published dimensions of a month ago are out of date. The whole establishment is unlike anything I have ever seen. On entering its mammoth maw one first sees the Ford English School. Over 100 languages and dialects are spoken by the workmen, and there is a large teaching staff engaged to give the necessary instruction in English. Mr. Ford told me that the best mechanics are English and German, and from other remarks he made I am inclined to think he considered the Scotch the best. Mr. Ford knows his England well, has travelled over most part of it, spoke warmly of the efficiency of quite a number of English factories, and, in explaining his tractor, pointed out to me that an essential portion of the mechanism was an English invention...

### Long time no see

From Mr David Long-Price

Sir, Congratulations to Dr John Sykes (report, October 16) on solving yesterday's crossword in 4½ minutes!

Today, at lunchtime, and with 45 years' practice, I am still trying to understand some of the answers. Yours faithfully, DAVID LONG-PRICE, Delamars, Fyningham, Ingatstone, Essex, October 17.







## THE ARTS

Television  
Cogent  
sunburn

It would be fun to see the outtakes on *The Triumph of the West* (BBC 2). Relaxing against colonial balconies, looking occasionally down to his sneakers, the engaging Warden of Morton, Dr John Roberts delivers long pieces to camera without notes, without hesitation – and, it must be said, at the end of this particular episode, without that much sense.

The first half of *New Worlds* – about the spread of European civilization to the Americas – showed him at his cogent, sunburnt best, reducing history without cheapening it, and avoiding the well-trodden path that presenters usually tread in dealing with the Conquistadors. Dr John related refreshingly on few illustrations in telling us the story of how Europe printed its culture indelibly on the American continent. Standing under aqueducts, wandering into empty churches and battle-grounds, he left us in no doubt that the Spanish Conquest was a much more complex operation than popular thought. He also left us wondering why, with a budget that embraced expensive locations like Spain, Colombia and Brazil, the shots were so flat and unadventurous (Cohn Waldeck is an excellent cameraman so I doubt the blame lies there).

For the second half he wore a suit, put on a tie and went up to the Protestant North – shaped by Puritan Europe. A few hundred years were suavely reduced, à la James Burke, to something incomprehensible – linked in no apparent way to what had gone before. (You really cannot blame Corles for the American Civil War.) Roberts's ideas, so plausible and fluent in tone, had when accompanied – or rather let down – by the pictures become intelligently delivered claptrap.

Nicaragua – *The Making of a Nation* (Channel 4) continued Marc Karlin's soporific and oddly passionless account of a country whose present troubles are well rooted in the Conquest. There were slow panning shots over unremarkable countryside and lengthy ground-level interviews with ordinary Sandinistas, mostly in baseball caps, about the oppressiveness of Somoza's regime. If last night's programme could be said to have presented an overall picture, it was of a nation re-engaged in unearthing its past – a nation of archaeologists posing as architects.

Nicholas  
Shakespeare

## Paris galleries

France facing a  
British enigma

Reynolds/La Gloire  
de Victor Hugo

Grand Palais

Soleil d'Encre

Petit Palais

Matta/Klee et la

Musique/

Raymond Mason/

L'Image des Mots

Centre Pompidou

Marevna et les

Montparnos

Musée Bourdelle

Suddenly it seems, as the autumn season in Paris swings into action, that in whatever direction you look there is something British. Reynolds, obviously, at the Grand Palais; but also Raymond Mason at the Centre Pompidou (not to mention whatever faint claim of domicile we might make on Matta). Tony Cragg at the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, Allen Jones in the Rue des Beaux-Arts and even a notable British invasion at the Printemps Haussmann store, where the Royal College of Art has a show of student work boldly proclaiming that it exemplifies *La Créativité Britannique*, and clearly supporting its claims for the large numbers of Parisian shoppers who wander in to gawp at sculpture, jewellery, industrial design and, boldest of all hereabouts, textiles and fashions – the faintest and faintest punks elements attracting the most attention.

It would be nice if one could claim that Reynolds, the flagship show as it were, was having the same sort of success with the public, but unfortunately that does not seem as yet to be the case: the weekend after it opened it was practically deserted – though I should in fairness add that so was the neighbouring show in the Grand Palais, devoted to a good, patriotic French subject, *La Gloire de Victor Hugo*.

Reynolds is on until December 16, after which it comes to the Royal Academy, and *Victor Hugo* until January 6, so it is early days for both of them, and they may well build up attendances after more reviews have appeared in the French Press. But certainly the feeling is that

people will not be flocking to Reynolds as they did four years ago to Gainsborough. Then the time was obviously right, with a vogue for *le goût anglais* sweeping through fashionable France, but also it must be said that Gainsborough is, in France, a more evidently exotic kind of artist than Reynolds, and certainly much more immediately alluring. Reynolds's attack on spectators' sensibilities is more frontal, and his portraits in the grand manner seem intended to keep one at a respectful distance rather than charm one into intimacy.

However, that is clearly not all there is to Reynolds, and after all the British have almost as much to discover about him as the French – there does not seem to have been a one-man show in London since the Arts Council's in 1949, and we rely more on general impressions than on detailed acquaintance with a large body of work. The Paris show has 63 paintings (no drawings), which is still not an over-generous selection from a lifetime's activity, but it certainly pulls our ideas into focus – aided by a catalogue which opens boldly with the 64,000-dollar question, "Reynolds est-il un grand peintre?", posed by Pierre Rosenberg of the Louvre. (He says guardedly that it is too early to judge, but hopefully the exhibition will help us find an answer.) So, is Reynolds a great painter, either in the grand international context in which he is currently presented, or in the more limited context of British art? I must confess that my immediate response to that is a tendency to shuffle my feet and wonder if I can put off attempting an answer until January.

However, on the evidence to hand one can say that Reynolds, whatever his virtues, is not centrally the kind of painter that appeals to modern tastes as much as – to make the obvious, invidious comparison – Gainsborough. You need much more of an exercise in the historical imagination to approach him, to realize what traditions he is working within and what conventions he is sometimes reacting against. For myself, I find the grand machines admirable but rather dull, enlivened only when, as in the case of the absurdly bedecked and belted *Charles Cooté Earl of Belmont* (intriguingly described in the catalogue as "re *Vermont anglais*"), they take off into a realm of fantasy.

There is no doubt that Reynolds was very good indeed



Reynolds's panache in handling the furly unexpected: Captain John Hamilton (1746)

at painting children, neither sentimental nor patronizing, and some of his fancy-pictures of them, like *St John the Baptist in the Desert* or the less-known *Cupid as Torch-bearer* (a very contemporary urchin – with improbable bat-like wings), are astonishingly immediate. He was also good at painting young women in a reasonably informal way, like the slightly ambiguous image of *Mrs Abington as "Miss Prue"*, and handles the unexpected, like the Russian-looking furs in which *Captain John Hamilton* is dressed, with a fine panache. But was he, finally, such an interesting artist even as, say, his close contemporary *Batoni*, whom, admirable as he is, no one would I suppose claim as a commanding figure? Well, come January and the Royal Academy, we can all think again.

*La Gloire de Victor Hugo* celebrates the centenary of Hugo's death on a scale worthy

of his own ideas of magnitude – the show goes on and on over three floors, and the catalogue is about the size of two London phone-books. It tells us all we could possibly wish to know about the way Hugo himself was depicted, straight and in caricature, how his works were illustrated, what theatre designers have done for his plays, how film-makers have adapted him (a subject which can be further pursued at the Cinéma-thèque), how he has inspired musicians, and how painters and sculptors have responded to his works.

In addition, over the way at the Petit Palais is a supplementary show, *Soleil d'Encre* (also until January 6), which displays his manuscripts and his own drawings and watercolours. It is very noticeable that the only important talent which shows itself here is Hugo's own: apart from the Dieterle *Hunchback of Notre Dame* there are no first-rate films, no illustrations to compare with those for

Dickens, no major works of art ever – you have to go nearly to the end of the show to find any painting (the odd Carrière and Puvion de Chavannes) which is even respectable. On the other hand, Hugo's own drawings are wild and innovative and wonderful. Perhaps there are some artists who are totally self-sufficient, and incapable of inspiring anyone else.

At the Centre Pompidou the two big new shows on the top floor are devoted respectively to Matta and to Klee et la Musique (the first until December 16, the second until January 1), while downstairs on the mezzanine there are the CCI's *L'Image des Mots*, part of a nationwide "relance" of typography and graphics (until November 4), and, along with some smaller shows, a major retrospective of the Anglo-French painter-sculptor Raymond Mason (until December 14). The Matta and the Klee shows are comprehensive.

## Jazz

Benny Golson  
Bull's Head

Humour has not often – some would say not often enough – been part of the weaponry of jazz. Slapstick drummers and Adrian Rollini's celebrated hot fountain pen gave early audiences the occasional chuckle, but Charles Mingus's sarcasm, Roland Kirk's shaggy-dog stories and the Art Ensemble of Chicago's irony have been about as close as the modern era has come to intentional jokes.

To hear Benny Golson's current quartet is to understand that jazz musicians can be consistently humorous without losing sight of deeper matters. Best known as the composer of such melodic jazz standards as "Whisper Not", "Stablemates" and "I Remember Clifford" and as the musical director of the Jazz Messengers during the late 1950s, Golson's increasingly frequent visits to Britain are a reminder that playing jazz for a living can be the most terrific fun.

He said as much to his audience at the Theatre at Barnes, but they had already got the point from Golson's highly original tenor saxophone solos and from the enthusiastic contributions of his pianist, Mickey Tucker, and his drummer, Marvin Smith, two musicians who share their leader's temperament and should be much more widely known.

Tucker has all the technique in the world and relishes the chance to display it in crazily scrambling runs, hilariously delicate pointillism and sumptuous block-chorded climaxes. Shadowing Golson's impatient improvisation on his own slow waltz "I Should Have Known", he made it plain that he is also a superlative accompanist.

Tucker's composition, approximating the circular rhythmic flow patented a quarter of a century ago by the John Coltrane Quartet, gave Marvin Smith, who is in his early twenties, a chance to show how well he has absorbed the lessons of Elvin Jones, as well as those of Art Blakey, Roy Haynes, Philly Joe Jones, Billy Higgins and others.

So impressive with Dave Holland's quintet on tour last year, Smith shares with Wynton Marsalis the ability to make the music's history work for him. His solo on Golson's rapid "Jam the Avenue" was long and loud, but it contained astonishing subtleties – not least in the way he kept the theme in mind throughout – and earned a roaring ovation. Really, I cannot remember hearing a jazz group whose music was so full of smiles. They return to the Bull's Head tonight.

John Russell Taylor

Richard Williams

## Recital

## Balance of delicate delight

Teresa Berganza  
Covent Garden

After Cherubino and Carmen, Rosina and Zerlina, Teresa Berganza added another and somewhat less familiar role to her repertoire on Sunday: that of a worker on the sugar plantations of north Brazil. Her Covent Garden recital gave her the chance to explore the songs of Antonio Francisco Braga, Brazilian contemporary of Granados, and it was a treat.

Braga was a pupil of Massenet at the Paris Conservatoire, and his settings of Afro-Portuguese texts have all the sophisticated Gallic-ethnic colour of a Gauguin painting. Filtered through the western European ear and the voice, the low incantation of the "macumba" ritual, in "O Kinimba", has a strange, raw uneasiness, cap-

tured perfectly by Berganza. It was this delicate balance of the naive and the sophisticated which made such a tour de force of "Engenho novo", a tongue-twister of onomatopoeia in which labourers in the sugar fields celebrate the advent of new machinery.

For this, and the children's round "São João-da-mãe-rã", Enrique Perez de Guzman, too, was in his element. A last-minute replacement for Berganza's advertised pianist, his presence contributed considerable style and panache to the evening. Here, and in the refrains of Granados's *punteado* song, his fingers, ebbing and flowing with every turn of Berganza's voice, equalled it in the extraordinary expressive variety within a single "tra-la-la".

Between them, voice and piano recreated with deep, sharp strokes the austere pas-

sion of Granados's three *Goyas* inspired "Maja dolorosa" songs. For "El majo tímido" Berganza flicked each short, diffident vowel in and out of the notes of its accompaniment; for "El majo discreto" she found a no less understated, confiding intimacy.

That same intimacy had worked less well in a group of eight Brahms songs. Here, de Guzman's comparative lack of experience as an accompanist showed; no doubt, later in his tour of Spain and Germany with Berganza, he will sharpen the detail and pointing so necessary to these songs and to her lightly floated way with them. Berganza, too, seemed less at ease with this repertoire, turning her eyes sideways to the score almost as often as they were raised in emotion to the ceiling.

Hilary Finch

LSO/Hickox  
Barbican

This latest instalment of the Mahler Vienna and the Twentieth Century series was a neat bit of programming, juxtaposing one of Mahler's darkest works with one of Britten's brightest.

The 20-year-old Mahler announced himself with astonishing completeness in *Das klagende Lied*, whose already huge technical strength articulates a sound-world of nightmarish intensity to a degree that Mahler was later to equal but not surpass. Perhaps the treatment of strophic text, however inventive, does not generate enough momentum to sustain such a large structure, but the scoring is totally characteristic in all departments.

Richard Hickox seemed to relish the fierce contrasts and spectral atmosphere of the music, duly conjuring some playing which was much more in line with this orchestra's reputation than we have tended

to hear recently. The etched clarity of the woodwind writing came across vividly, as did Mahler's magnificent horn-calls, and the big climaxes were suitably shattering. Heather Harper, Alfreda Hodgson, Arthur Davies and the London Symphony Chorus all made much of the less gratifying but still strongly written vocal parts.

The performance of Britten's *Spring Symphony* that followed was not quite so successful; the more deftly written passages were marginally short on finesse, and the opening setting of "Shine on, fair sun" did not unfold from its shadowy beginnings in the percussion with the necessary mystery. But the big moments were again splendid, as at the words "like every shire" in the exuberant *Finale*. The chorus thoroughly enjoyed themselves throughout.

Martyn Hill, replacing Arthur Davies at short notice, sang creditably enough, though I wish Hickox had not driven him and the orchestra's strings and harps so hard in the exquisite setting of "When will my May come". Incidentally,

## Concerts

Christopher Palmer's programme-note was a strange appetizer, among other things berating as "prigs and boobies" (sic) those who might have dared to express honest doubt about even a note of Britten's music. Perish the thought!

Malcolm Hayes

Amadeus Quartet  
Festival Hall

It was Amadeus all the way in more than one sense when Norbert Brainin and his colleagues devoted themselves entirely to Mozart at their afternoon concert on Sunday. Devotion is usually evident when they play the Viennese classics anyway, but it is a special kind of devotion that now after nearly 40 years together comes from an intimate experience of the spirit within the music.

The string quartet has aptly been called, I think by another violinist, "a medium that has no mercy", but it is part of the Amadeus Quartet's particular skill to hide whatever problems there may have been in achieving the technical assurance of intonation and ensemble, in the interests of communicating to the listener. They are conversational, but always reaching beyond themselves; emphatic, but never abrasive; ebullient or serene, but never merely suave.

These qualities were abundantly felt and enjoyed in their

performances of the B flat Quartet known as "The Hunt" (K458) and the first of the nicknamed "Prussian" Quartets (K575 in D). Some feathers were just a bit ruffled in momentary lapses in the second of these, but it may have been a sudden surge of individual feeling or a slight slackening of tension which disturbed the surface of an otherwise responsive partnership.

The players were joined by Kenneth Essex as the extra viola for the crowning delight of

the concert, an account of the G minor Quintet (K516) which had the sense of having been studied all over again to become a newly-minted pleasure. An illusion of coasting along its own momentum could be brought up sharp by the inflexion of a phrase or the blend of a five-part texture, while the raptness of the adagio movement in its muted fervour was best acknowledged in quiet thanksgiving.

Noël Goodwin

## London débuts

The American pianist James Dick revealed himself as an adventurous artist, even a showman – in his performance of Bach's Italian Concerto. There was much about his style that reminded one of Glenn Gould; the piano stool was set low, for example, while the fingers bit abruptly into the keys. There was also an element of Gould's idiosyncratic way with this composer. The finale went at an almost outrageous gallop, losing, it must be said, a little of its detail on the way, while there was a teasing brittleness even in the exquisitely ornamented slow movement. It was good to hear Mr Dick in more subtle mood for Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 81a, "Les Adieux", where his control of emotion was accomplished through the most detailed attention to shading of timbre.

New specialist baroque ensembles are no longer rare phenomena on London's musical scene, and so one is entitled to look for something quite special in those that do emerge. Jonathan Jones has gathered together a small group of already well-known professionals to form the Cambridge Baroque Camerata, and at once it must be said that they make a respectable team. But that is about as far as it goes. Jones has neither the fire of a Pinckney nor the personal magnetism of a Hogwood to help him. The result is that his ensemble plays altogether too politely, and not

always with razor-sharp reflexes. Handel's Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No. 5, suffered less than Vivaldi's Concerto "Alla rustica" or the harmonic extravaganzas of Purcell from such a lack of fire. Perhaps it is a matter of confidence growing with experience.

Stephen Pettitt

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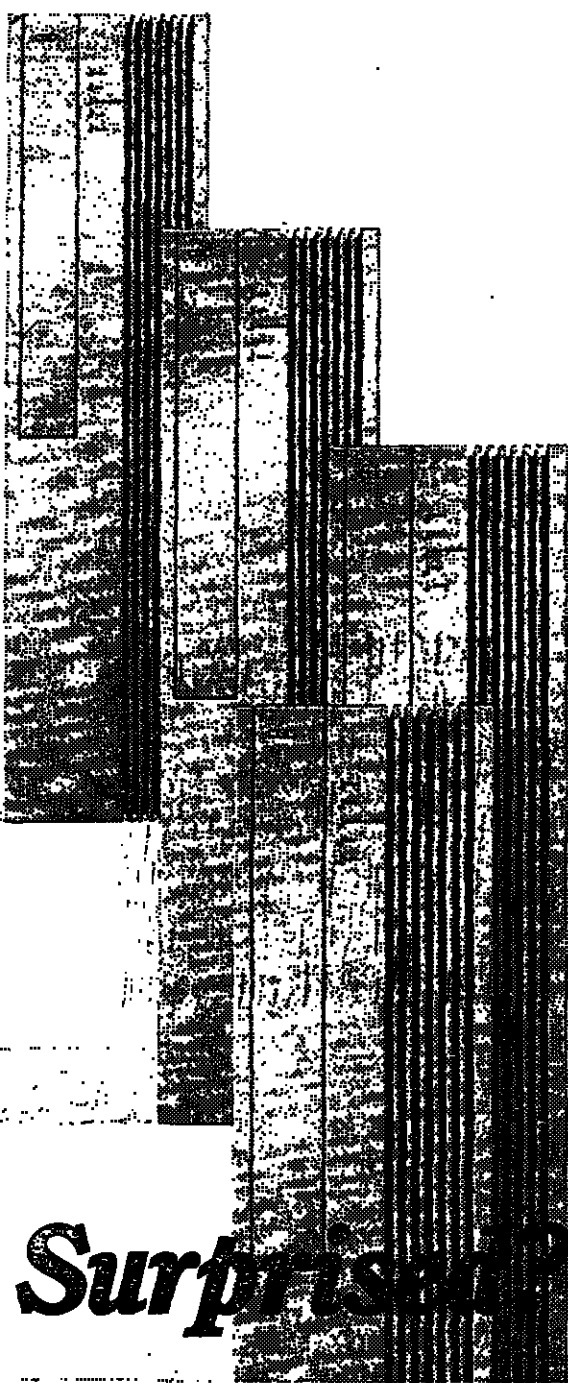
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## Eureka! 18 nations in step on Euro plan

By Richard Sarson

If you put 18 bankers and 18 industrialists from 18 European countries in one room, to discuss how to finance European high-technology, you would normally expect 36 different viewpoints. But at such a meeting in London last week, most of them seemed to agree with each other most of the time.

The meeting was called by the British Government, to focus the ideas of European industry and finance on Eureka, Francois Mitterrand's initiative to get Europe to work together and roll back the tide of Japanese and Californian technology. There were no civil servants or Eurocrats present, so the industrialists could say whether, and how, they wanted to co-operate with each other, to develop new products and sell them in a unified market. And the bankers were there to say whether they were prepared to put money into such ventures.

On behalf of the bankers, Dr Herrhausen, chairman of the Deutsche Bank, made it clear that finance was always available for any properly defined project. The cross-border nature of Eureka-type ventures did not worry him, he said, as there had never been any frontiers in finance.

The normal three to five year timescale of technology were also no problem, although he admitted that the longer, seven to 15 year projects, would be hard to finance.

Colin Southgate, managing director of Thorn-EMI, who was the British industrial delegate, was encouraged by the realism of the conference.

Mr Southgate himself strongly considers it absurd that Europe has 12 telecommunications companies, when the US has three. He would like to see Eureka give birth to a European equivalent of MITI, the association of the leading Japanese electronics companies, which decides a strategy for the whole industry. Such a body could help to restructure the industry.

Many of the ideas and directions taken by the conference sprang from the fertile brain of Robb Wilnot, part-time chairman of ICL. His message is that Eureka should not become a bureaucracy like the EEC. Next month in Hanover, when the ministers of the 18 countries meet, to fill in Eureka's hazy outlines, they should heed the advice.

## Another lesson from Japan

The debate inspired by the publication of a House of Lords report last week highlighting the crisis facing British manufacturing has opened old wounds and polarized opinion on their conclusions.

Two of those wounds are decades old. First, the British have never been able to accord manufacturing the status awarded other commercial ventures and second they have always been reluctant to give the professionals - the engineers and technicians - who implement that industrial strategy the status of people of similar rank in other industries.

A change in attitude is crucial if Britain is going to reinvest in new industries, particularly the high technology sectors, to replace the old. Japan gives us the main lessons. Not only is manufacturing there crucial but the professionals who are the architects of their industrial policy are given the financial and political backing.

Almost at the same time that the Lords were publishing their report on the deficiencies in the British manufacturing sector, another lesson emerged from Japan - some of the final details of a plan to transform their steel industry into semiconductor manufacturing. Steel had been slumped down as has been the case in most of Europe and the US but because

the Japanese believe manufacturing is vital, the steel effort must be replaced by another.

Four Japanese steel makers are making the move: Nippon Steel, Kawasaki Steel, Nippon Kokan and Sumitomo Metal Industries. By next year, most will have the plant installed and each will be making about two million microchip wafers by the following year. Silicon and Gallium Arsenide chips will be made by the groups in the wake of an investment which is

plant spawns an array of other satellite service industries, which in turn create jobs.

If we are to exploit the computer and telecommunication industries, a fundamental change in national attitude is required. The trade deficit in these sectors is £2,000 million a year and rising.

The Lords concluded: "It is neither exaggeration, nor irresponsible, to say that the present situation undoubtedly contains the seeds of a major political and economic crisis in the foreseeable future. Yet the nation at large appears to be unaware of the seriousness of its predicament."

"The Committee think that these are symptomatic of a general lack of awareness of the importance of manufacturing and of a healthy performance in international trade, and is reflected in the inadequate esteem accorded to industry and trade in modern British culture."

It has not been a British attitude to treat manufacturing as an activity which merits high priority. People of the highest potential have neither been educated nor encouraged to go into industry. The diplomatic or home civil service, the City, the professions, and academia have been preferred, both in esteem and in some cases in rewards.

### THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

Technology Correspondent

measured in tens of million of pounds. These manufacturers have for years been dabbling in new techniques and materials but these investments are salutary lessons to the west where unemployment is still a major political headache.

The British failure, the Lords believe, is deeply entrenched in ignorance and prejudice. Manufactured goods are what consumers - business and domestic - buy, not raw materials. And each manufacturing

## Send your robot, not excuses

By Richard Pawson

If you find yourself wanting to be in two places at the same time, take heart - the solution could be around the corner. Telepresence may sound like the latest nonsense from the people who brought you UFOs and spoon-bending, but is actually a proposed application for the tried and tested technology of robots.

Telepresence and the related field of teleoperation represent something of an admission of failure by the artificial intelligence community. The development of a fully autonomous android of the C3PO genre has proved more intractable than was forecast at the birth of artificial intelligence in the 1950s. Now the emphasis has changed towards developing robot drones that can copy most human movements, but are remotely controlled by a human operator.

The concept has evolved from the field of Telechirics, derived from the Greek meaning "hands at a distance". The first real attempt to make these devices more versatile and easy to use came from NASA's jet propulsion laboratory in California.

The JPL/Ames manipulator comprises a mechanical sleeve worn by the operator like a piece of medieval armour, and a remote robotic arm of similar geometry. Any movement of the operator's arm, and in the later versions, hands and fingers, is detected by position



sensors buried in the hinges, and transmitted to the appropriate servo motor in the robotic arm.

However, moving from remote manipulation to full scale teleoperation entails more than just extending the sleeve to a full suit of armour. Without "force feedback", for example, the operator is unable to feel the effect of his actions, the mass of an object, and how tightly it needs to be grasped.

To an operator ensconced in one of these robot suits, the combined effect would be indistinguishable from being at the remote site personally. Now comes the crunch: add just a little bit of local autonomy, so that the robot can be left

## A revolution around the corner?

By Frank Brown

A new industry and university collaboration could revolutionize the design of future computer systems, particularly in simplifying systems software requirements to make life easier for systems users and programmers.

The universities of Glasgow and St Andrews, together with ICL, have been awarded an Alvey research contract to develop a new generation of computer systems where both operation and application software will be programmed by just one computer language.

The need for separate operating systems and applications software, each with its inherent complexity and expensive overheads, will therefore be eliminated. Programming will be much simpler, and the development of application programs, particularly for complex multi-user systems will be greatly speeded up.

The three-year project, known as PISA (persistent information space architecture), is based on the concept of treating all data alike - instead of describing them in different ways, as at present.

New algorithms are needed if the increased systems complexity offered by new hardware technologies is to be fully exploited, the team believes.

## Chips for everyone... well almost

By Sid Smith

A Cambridge firm is claiming a price breakthrough which enables university classes and small companies to design their own chips.

Quodos, led by past and present executives of Acorn Computers, has developed inexpensive software permitting chip design on small personal computers. As a result, says the company, tooling-up costs traditionally approaching £100,000 for a chip design facility have been cut to less than £15,000.

In the second stage of its operation, Quodos takes its customer's layout on a personal computer disc and can then turn out sample quantities of the new design for as little as £100 a chip, thus bringing personalized chips within the reach of a class of students, or the small systems house or electrical design company.

The managing director of Quodos, Peter O'Keefe, one-time marketing manager of Acorn, has investment fund backing to the tune of £400,000 for the company, and claims that his system opens the chip market to a whole new range of markets.

He says: "Students can now have the satisfaction of seeing their designs on silicon, instead of having to be content with simulation tests on the college computer. And whereas companies previously had to buy a minicomputer and a £30,000 computer-aided design software package, or to hire facilities at a chip manufacturer, they could now design simple chips on a BBC micro if they wanted."

Like the company's staff, Quodos software traces its roots to home-micro manufacturer Acorn Computers, particularly with Acorn's experience with semi-customized chips supplied by a manufacturer such as Ferranti or Texas Instruments with 90 per cent of their circuits fixed in place.

Individual customers such as Acorn then arrange the topmost layer of circuits on the chip to their own design, thereby gaining some of the flexibility of a fully customized chip at some of the price savings of a mass produced unit.

The Quodos software is a set of computer aided design programs to set out this topmost layer of the semi-customized chip, and the company's manufacturing facility involves etching the design on to chips with an electron beam engraver.

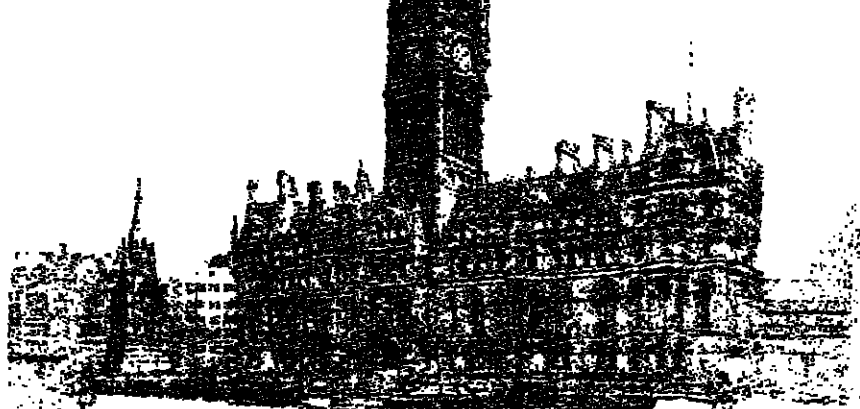
Semi-customized chips were instrumental in the success of British home micros

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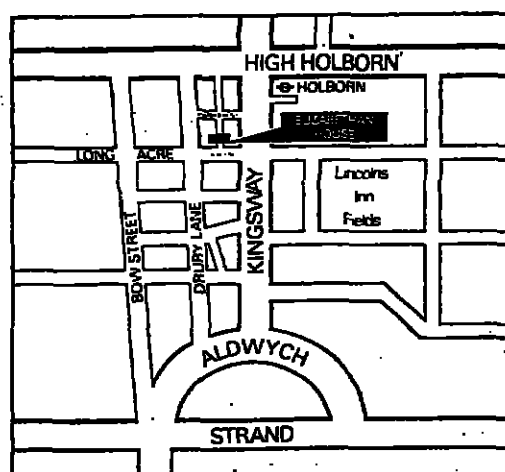
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## IBM's network customers will need a little patience

By Stephanie Schofield

Though IBM has finally announced its long-awaited business computer network British customers, well-practised in the art of patience, will have to wait until the middle of 1986 before deliveries begin.

Dubbed the token-ring network, it enables IBM's personal computer family and a sprinkling of larger computers to communicate with one another within the same building, and to share office equipment like printers.

IBM's market dominance in computers means that the system is bound to set a new network standard in the same

way that IBM's original personal computer set a business micro standard. Other hardware and software manufacturers tailored their offerings to work with it.

Texas Instruments, which designed four silicon chips used in the network, believes at least 100 compatible products will be available from other manufacturers by the middle of next year. Acceptance of the new network by the computer industry is still important as, despite conventional wisdom, not everything IBM announces becomes a standard.

Mindful of this, the usually reticent IBM will be publishing

technical specifications and handing out adapter components to rival manufacturers in an effort to swamp the market with IBM compatible products and thereby create that magic "standard".

But at this early stage the announcement has already been greeted with disappointment. The token-ring - so-called because packets or tokens of information are passed between computers along a cabling system laid out like a ring - currently only really hooks up the PC range of micros.

The industry had hoped that word processors and larger computers, particularly IBM's

popular System/36 minicomputer would also hook onto the network. Eric Arnau, from the US-based research company IRD, says: "It seems like just another way of connecting personal computers: hundreds of other vendors already supply such a product."

He also contends that the four megabits a second rate at which information is passed within the network (one megabit is equivalent to a million separate items of information) is very slow, falling well short of the 10 megabits a second capacity of the older Ethernet type networks, sold by the likes of Digital Equipment.

## Majority join the bandwagon

By Matthew May

Computer manufacturers have been quick to respond to IBM's network. Seven of IBM's major competitors say they expect to offer connections between their products and the new network.

But there is a noticeable amount of bad grace among those companies in the computer industry that have been forced to admit IBM is powerful enough to establish an industry standard without consultation.

Criticism, for example, came of IBM's lack of detail about how the network will function technically and a general disappointment that the information given referred largely only to personal computers. Britain's main computer

manufacturer, ICL, says it has not yet decided whether to offer a bridge to IBM's network because it is not clear whether the new network will fit in with the international ISO standard.

One other company that shows little sign of accepting IBM's network as an industry standard is Digital Equipment, hardly surprising since it is heavily involved in promoting an alternative and competing network, Ethernet, as an industry standard. Those large companies that have expressed a willingness to join the IBM bandwagon include Sperry, AT & T, Hewlett-Packard, Xerox, Wang and Data General.

On the plus side, industry optimists

believe that a standard local area network could provide a way out of the computer slump. One report from US analysts Sandford Bernstein predicts sales revenue will jump from the current £273 million a year to £3.3 billion by 1990, although others put the figure at considerably less. IBM's new network will be able to support 260 personal computers at an average cost per terminal of £700 for networks with eight or more computers connected.

IBM has not faced an easy task in developing this product and though it has been clear for more than two years that IBM would eventually produce one, there have been reports of squabbles between IBM divisions as they vied for a system to suit their particular range of computers.



Only a few days remain to enter the UK Computer Press Awards, sponsored by The Times and Hewlett-Packard. The awards will be presented at a dinner at Claridges on November 27 hosted by Selina Scott. Entries must be made from articles published or programmes broadcast from November 1 1984 to October 31 1985 and must be submitted by October 31.

The seven awards to be made are Computer Journalist of the Year, Computer Journalist of the Year (News), Computer Journalist of the Year (Features), Computer Columnist of the Year, Computer Photographer of the Year, Best Designed Journal of the Year and Computer Programme (Television or Radio) of the Year.

Entry forms and further details are available from UK Computer Press Awards, Horsley Associates, Capital House, 20-22 Craven Road, London W2 3PX (tel 01-402 3347).

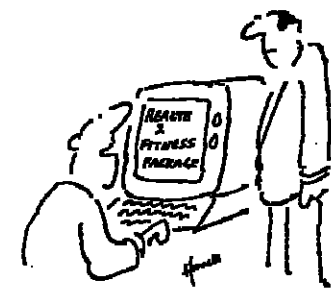
## Healthier screens for VDUs

A new type of clip-on screen for visual display units may combat some of the potential health hazards in using them, according to its Islington-based manufacturer, Ultraguard. Whether or not constant viewing of computer screens is harmful has been the subject of several conflicting reports. Ailments that have come under scrutiny range from headaches and eyestrain to facial dermatitis while the possibility of an increased risk of miscarriages has also been mentioned.

Two versions of the product are to be sold: one, costing £97, which cuts out 99 per cent of ultra violet light and 70 per cent of X-rays and a second which cuts out 99 per cent of X-rays and costs £237.

With the controversy over possible harmful effects, Ultraguard's co-founder, Peter Gresham, believes potential customers will be those who wish to demonstrate that they are doing what can be done although he expects more comprehensive research to confirm the harmful effect of some radiation or X-ray emissions.

The world's fastest computer has been delivered to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The Cray 2/2002 can work out 250 million calculations a second and is said to be three times faster than its predecessors. It will form part of a large system that NASA is developing with the aim of achieving a speed of billion calculations a second. It will be used for simulating aircraft flight, aircraft design as well as weather prediction and genetic engineering. Aeronautics is America's biggest single export and NASA's system is seen as a deliberate attempt to encourage the development of new supercomputers by the domestic



"All it's come up with so far is 'Avoid looking at VDU screens'."

### COMPUTER BRIEFING

computer industry and head off Japanese competition. Despite a price tag of £12 million, the computer is smaller than a 4ft cube. Making such supercomputers smaller is one way to increase the speed of operation as the distances information has to travel within the machine is reduced.

British Gas has now completed a year-long evaluation of computer-based training (CBT) which is now being analysed by its regional training managers.

Training technologist Mike Hawes, who headed the five-man team which carried out the study said: "So far as we are concerned, CBT is proven. It overcomes a number of problems associated with traditional training methods and is considerably more cost-effective. But it must be entered into seriously. The standards of training input have to be higher than for traditional methods."

British Gas's training requirements are considerable, involving 90,000 people and ranging from "business issues" training for its 700 most senior executives to apprentice training and training young people involved in the Youth Training Scheme.

Among the benefits found by using CBT was that line managers found it more acceptable and easier to slot people into training during work schedules.

Telecommunications giant AT & T will continue to look at opportunities to buy computer companies but it had not picked any targets yet, says chairman Charles Brown. Mr Brown acknowledged that AT & T officials had visited Apple Computer and Digital Equipment but that "every visit isn't necessarily about acquisition".

Over the past year analysts have often speculated that AT & T Plans to buy a computer company arguing that AT & T need to gain credibility in the market by buying a company with a large established customer base.

Who needs a home computer is a question that has been troubling manufacturers of such products all year as it has become increasingly clear that the market for game-playing machines is saturated. That question is also the title of a new book by Derek Rowntree who actually questions whether it is worth taking one into your home.

Many people, he argues, have a home computer but do not need it because many of the jobs that a home computer might do can be done more cheaply or more conveniently by simpler means.

Who Needs a Home Computer? is published by Methuen at £4.95.

# Then John admitted he hadn't slept with his micro-computer for months.

Poor John. It was incompatibility. A few months ago, we both bought micros for our businesses. I chose the new Triumph Adler Alphatronic. He was seduced by a rather more obvious name.

### Life in pieces

My Alphatronic came complete, a perfect marriage of everything I needed. All the essentials others seem to regard as extras were included as standard, neatly contained in one perfectly designed machine.

Not so John's ill-fated match. His life was, quite literally, in pieces.

He found he needed a separate interface card for every extension he had to make. They were numerous, even including an expansion card for colour and yet another for graphics.

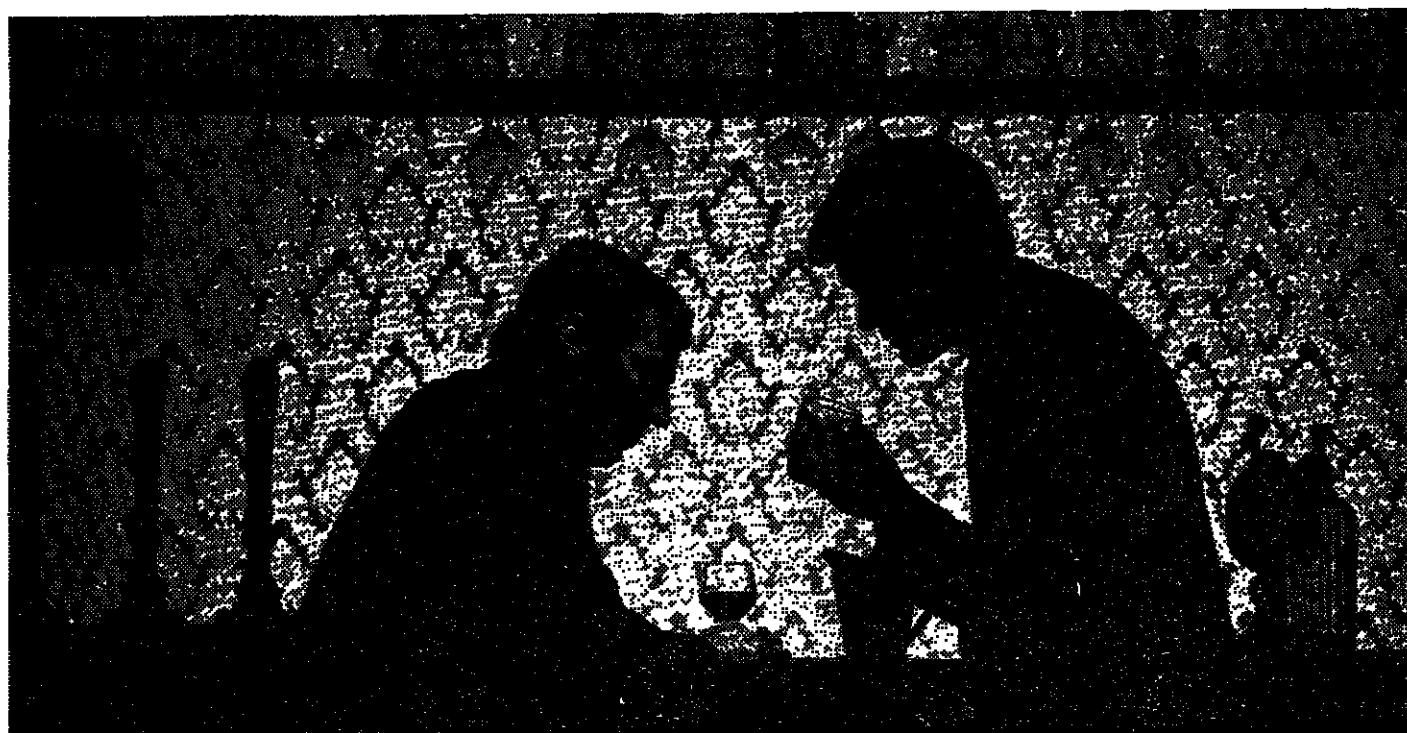
Every time he used an interface card, he used up a precious slot to put it in. Soon, all the slots were used up. So, he couldn't expand anymore.

### Endless arguments

Then, things started to go wrong, and because all his extensions came from different places, he had to argue with dealer after dealer to get them put right.

I gently reminded him that life with the Alphatronic presented no such headaches, affording me a single source of support from one, highly-knowledgeable dealer.

What's more, because it's so well-endowed to start with, the Alphatronic has many more



expansion possibilities. I recently added Prestel and a tape-streamer, (which records a whole day's work in twenty minutes), with no trouble at all.

John groaned, defeatedly.

Same old grind, every day

Apart from processing information up to three times faster, thanks to the powerful new Intel 80186 processor (a true 16-bit chip), my Alphatronic also warms up in seconds, rather than the two tedious minutes John's machine takes.

And whereas John says his disc-drives sound like an old washing machine, my Alphatronic is blissfully quiet in comparison.

### Irresistibly beautiful

I was always attracted by the Alphatronic's elegant appearance. Ergonomically designed, it's as pleasant to work with as it is to look at. With a keyboard and a screen that are both highly

developed yet simple to use. Just what you'd expect knowing that Triumph Adler is part of the design-conscious Volkswagen Group.

John's choice, on the other hand, left a lot to be desired in this respect.

### He's paid the price

On top of everything else, John now has to face the fact that he's paid over the odds for a computer that was always incapable of delivering what he bought it for. Any of the four Alphatronic models, with their different capacities, would have more than satisfied his needs from the start. And any of them would have run all the IBM compatible software he could possibly need.

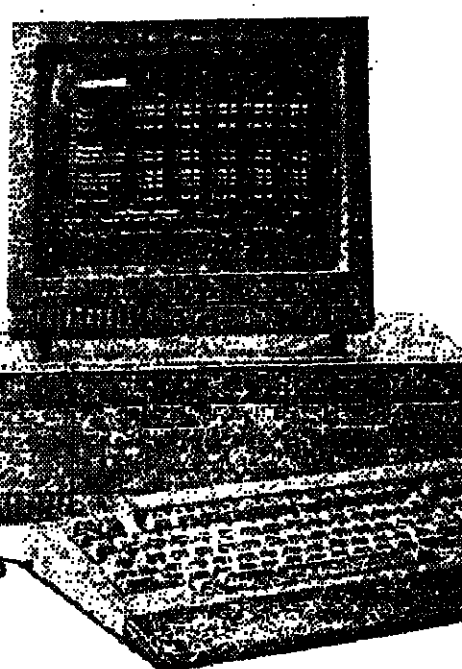
So, John bought his machine to save money, but in the long run, it's really cost him. No wonder he wasn't sleeping. I bought him

another drink and gave him an Alphatronic brochure to read on the train home.

For your, free, full-colour brochure on the new Alphatronics, simply send your business card or letterhead to:

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## Silicon Fen talent draining away

The so-called "Cambridge phenomenon" is facing problems. For nearly a decade Cambridge has been a hive of high-tech innovation, spawning a whole range of successful, and recently not so successful, technology-based companies. These include not only high-profile companies such as Acorn, Torus and Sinclair, but a lot of others concerned with more obscure sectors of the technology market, such as biotechnology.

It might be thought that Cambridge of all places, with its access to a supply of science graduates, would be certain of a stream of suitably qualified staff. Not so. Some estimates put staff shortages in the area at more than 50 per cent.

In response to this, local authorities in and around Cambridge are co-operating directly with a commercial recruitment company in devising a radical plan aimed at easing the recruitment problems of local high-tech companies.

Chris Green, Cambridge County Council's economic development officer, explains: "Our interest in this scheme is in promoting the Cambridgeshire area generally. We are backing up the normal information about the availability of specific jobs, with general information about the county. This includes details of housing and recreational facilities, and about what one might term the general quality of life to be found within our area."

The local authorities are working closely with Cambridge Recruitment Consultants (CRC). More than £100,000 is being spent on an advertising and information campaign. George King, the Head of CRC, says: "We estimate that there are at least 500 unfilled vacancies in high-tech companies in the Cambridge area. Many companies are simply poaching staff from one another."

That is a dangerous trend. It is vital that the Cambridge high-tech industry does not become inbred. It must be able to draw talent from all over the UK. If employees are simply recycled from one local company to another, Cambridge could easily end up with a pool of staff possessing a very narrow experience band.

To avoid that, local companies need to advertise nationally. That's expensive and some of our smaller local companies simply can't afford it. Hence this new scheme designed to market the area generally, rather than advertise specific vacancies. This method of advertising will cut the effective cost of recruiting staff by a factor of about five."

In November, advertisements will appear listing the types of job available and the

### JOB SCENE

By Russell Jones

expected salary ranges. All interested respondents will be directed to phone a central BT site, where a team of specially briefed workers will be ready to handle up to 6,000 inquiries.

CRC will then send out to each applicant an information pack extolling the virtues of Cambridge in general and listing vacancies suited to the applicant's specific experience. From then on, local companies will have the option of following up applicants themselves or leaving it to CRC.

Mr Green believes this to be the first such joint venture, adding: "The high-tech industry around Cambridge is a vital part of our community - with an annual turnover of around £1,500 million. It makes straightforward economic sense for local authorities to become involved in doing all they can to ensure that local companies have access to the best staff available."

## IBM Portable, complete, £950!

Morse Computers are offering IBM Personal Computing below £1000. This system is complete with 256k, two 360k disk drives, UK keyboard, DOS 2.1 and manuals. Morse are IBM authorised dealers and keep large stocks of all IBM PCs at remarkable prices.

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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Elders' 'generous' offer will still have to grow

Britain's biggest takeover bid, the long awaited offer by Elders IXL for Allied Lyons, has at last materialized. One thing is clear at £1.8 billion it is nowhere near big enough.

Yesterday Elders' chief executive, Mr John Elliott, was giving an object lesson in the behaviour of the modern, rough, tough corporate predator. He paid little attention to Allied's share price and heaped scorn on the company he is determined to buy. Words will not win him the battle, cash will.

With Allied's shares at 270p last night against Mr Elliott's "generous" offer of 255p, he is going to have to find considerably more money if he is serious in his bid for the brewing and food giant.

As David Stevens of United Newspapers so ably demonstrated recently, realizing the big corporate ambitions of small aggressive chairmen can be an expensive business. Mr Elliott is only chairman-elect of Elders but he and Mr Stevens have much in common, not least their unfaltering belief in their own management skills. John Elliott has no doubt that he can improve upon the performance of Allied.

The way he has gone about putting together his bid has not convinced the City of his abilities. After studying the company for 15 months, he had to beg an extra few days' grace from the Takeover Panel in order to make his bid before the panel's shutters came down.

Having talked enthusiastically of a consortium bid, he now sees "no added value from a consortium". He insists that there were partners interested in going where Imperial Group had decided not to tread and joining a consortium with a view to carving up Allied after the bid, but he prefers not to name them.

He is bidding alone, although the vehicle is a new company owned only 48 per cent by Elders and 52 per cent by the eight bankers who are providing the adventure capital. Citibank is leading; the others seem to want to keep their identity secret until the offer document.

Mr Elliott does not believe that anyone in London should be concerned about this new company that is audaciously bidding for Allied, one of our larger corporations. He points out that Elders has the option to buy out the 52 per cent holding of the bankers should it so choose.

His criticisms of Allied are sweeping: "antiquated management structure", "tired performance", "brands that are all second in their fields, not first". Allied, it is true, has not been the best run of the major brewers. It had plenty of scope for improving the performance of some of its brands, and the boost in the share price owed much to the presence of the Australians. All is not yet right at Allied, but it is getting better. The restructuring of the brewing business is complete and the results should soon begin to filter through.

Mr Elliott suspects, almost certainly rightly, that the next figures from Allied will be even better than one could genuinely expect, for having dismissed the Elders offer as "ludicrous", a target company's next defence must be some bumper profits.

Could Elders do any better? John Elliott does not intend to try. If he wins Allied, he would carve it into pieces and realize cash in order to fund his bid. The food division he admits would be divided into three companies and auctioned off to the highest bidders. He would attempt to sell half shares in Allied's 7,000 pubs to the licensees. Where he thought there was more money to be made by selling the property for redevelopment, then he would be happy to do that instead.

Such techniques worked well for him in Australia, where Mr Elliott has quickly established a reputation for being a tough manager, and an equally tough fund raiser (for the Liberal Party). It would be foolish of Allied to underestimate him. Nationalist sentiment is a poor card and a supportive attitude from institutional shareholders cannot be relied on.

## Plenty of tricks still up Lawson's sleeve

Will the Chancellor really bump up interest rates if he decides that the monetary signals he trusts are telling him that things are out of control? Will he rather prefer to divert attention by

conjuring up another monetary aggregate to target?

On the first question, W. Greenwell & Co. in its monetary bulletin, has doubts. The Greenwell verdict on last week's formally-announced change of emphasis is that the unceremonious dumping of sterling M3 was the only course open. Sterling M3 had been rendered virtually unusable by the level of real interest rates, the shape of the yield curve and the opportunities for bill arbitrage.

The monetary bulletin clears Mr Lawson of attempting to engineer a backdoor reflation by abandoning his broad money target. It does, however, question his willingness to take the unpopular course of raising interest rates under the new approach.

"If the crunch comes at an inopportune time, the Chancellor may have neither the will nor the political support to use the only mechanism he has allowed himself," the brokers conclude.

The truth is that Chancellors rarely raise interest rates until they are forced to by the markets. The trick will be to present enough diversions to prevent this happening.

There are plenty in Mr Lawson's armoury. By keeping his powder dry on UK membership of the European Monetary System and the elevation of the monetary measure M2, he has enough scope to keep the markets guessing on interest rates for most of the time between now and the next election. With the possibility of a switch back towards broad money, perhaps even money GDP, the authorities could save themselves from being forced into a corner, where the only option would be to reach for higher interest rates.

Greenwell makes the useful point that the "no overfunding" strategy means that gilts sold to foreigners now have exactly the same value as sales to domestic investors. Given a new downward tick for the dollar, it is not inconceivable that domestic investors will be starved of gilts in the coming months.

## Few will feel the krugerrand clamp

Whitehall officials were already beavering away yesterday trying to turn into reality the Commonwealth heads of government's cryptic words about restricting the import of krugerrands. The official communiqué referred to "a readiness to take unilateral action which may be possible to preclude the import of krugerrands". In whitehall the word was that the Import of Gold Control Order would probably be the chosen instrument, and it seems that a full ban is on the way. Britain is the only member of the Commonwealth where sales of Krugerrands were significant.

What purpose could it serve? The cynic will note that the ban, which follows similar American action two months ago, will be imposed when few people are buying the coins any way. For a combination of political and investment reasons, krugerrands have sold badly this year. So poor have sales become that in June, Intergold, the arm of the South Africa Chamber of Mines which markets the coins, stopped publishing sales statistics for the first time since the coin was launched in 1970. Britain imported 17,329 ounces of krugerrands last year, and 9,548 to the end of August this year.

Part of the fall is being made up by increased sales of other coins, notably the Canadian Maple Leaf. The Royal Canadian Mint expects to sell 1.5 million ounces of the coins this year, and claims to have captured 35 per cent of the world gold coin market. The Australians also propose to introduce a gold coin next year.

Technically the revenue from krugerrand sales accrues to the members of the Chamber of Mines, although it does of course help to underpin the rand. The economic effect of a ban on South Africa will be negligible. The political message however is unambiguous and the action on krugerrands is a precedent for banning imports of other South African goods.

The most severely affected people could be the innocent holders of krugerrands, the price of a one ounce coin fell £2 yesterday to £250, while gold bullion lost only 50 cents on the day. Both traders, who could lose useful business, and investors may be wary of holding coins with restricted dealing opportunities.

Even here the picture is unclear. A limited pool of the coins might push up their value, quite the opposite of what the heads of government presumably wanted.

## Volcker urges US banks to lend \$20bn to Third World

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board yesterday urged America's largest banks to make \$20 billion in new loans to Third World countries over the next three years to maintain the stability of the international banking system.

In an unusual private session held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Bankers Association, Mr Volcker and Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, attempted to extract an agreement from the banks to rally behind the Administration's new plan to ease the debt crisis.

US banks have been notably cool to the accelerated loan plan unveiled by Mr Baker at the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Seoul, South Korea.

Mr Volcker and Mr Baker asked officials of the ABA to gather its highest officials for the session to outline more details of the programme. They requested the meeting after an earlier session with executives of 25 US banks which held more than 85 per cent of the outstanding foreign debt.

Mr Volcker's message to the

banking executives was that they must step up lending to 15 developing countries over the next three years to prevent the international debt management system from unravelling, officials said.

At the same time, Mr Volcker endorsed the idea of a new superbank to replace the present system of commercial banking syndicates in channeling new loans to the Third World and rescheduling old debt.

## Support for debt plan

A paper published by the London-based Centre for Economic Policy Research yesterday provided backing for the new American approach on debt.

Professor Richard Portes of Birkbeck College, London, and Professor Barry Eichengreen of Harvard University, argue that there is a parallel between the debt reschedulings of the Eighties and the sovereign defaults of the Thirties.

Then as now, the authors argue, debt problems were not confined to any one country or region but were due to weak commodity prices, mistaken domestic policies or high real interest rates.

Acknowledging that many problems still need to be worked out, Mr Volcker said the superbank would streamline the cumbersome banking syndicate process.

It would act as the sole repository for all old and new private funds available to debtor nations and would work with the IMF and the World Bank in managing the debt.

Mr Volcker warned the

banking officials that they must move quickly to support sustained growth in developing countries which have failed to make progress over the past two difficult years. He noted that new bank lending to debtor nations had practically stopped this year.

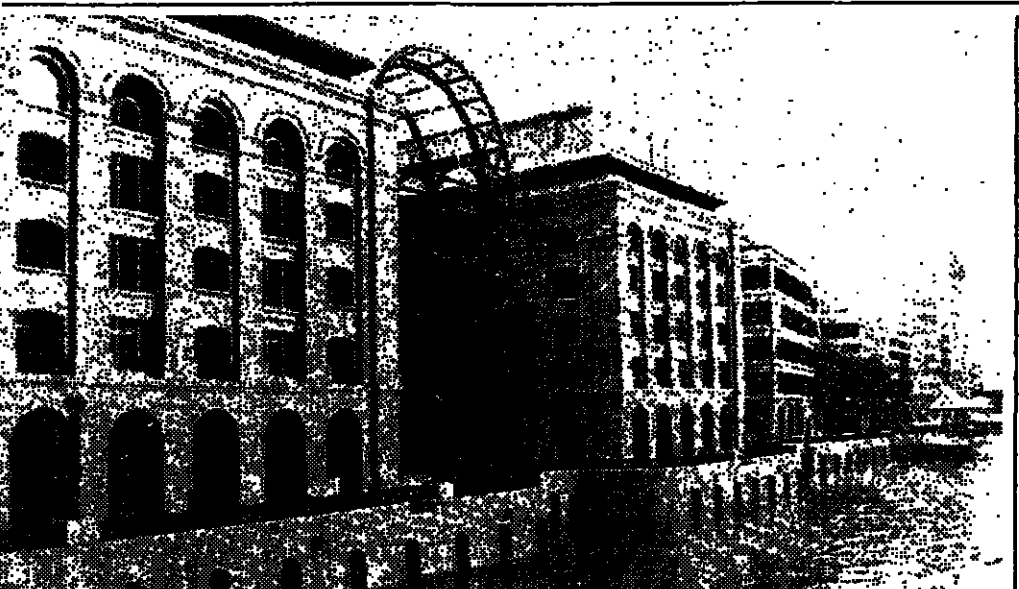
Banking officials, however, are demanding concessions from the Administration in return for their support of the debt initiative.

The big banks are pressing Mr Volcker and Mr Baker to agree to loan guarantees and to obtain promises from banking regulators that they will not require special reserves for the new loans.

A prominent New York banker said: "We want some understanding that they are not going to classify these loans as doubtful next week."

The acting comptroller of the Currency, Mr Joe Seiby, told bankers he will propose rules that would force periodic disclosure by all federally chartered banks, amid growing Congressional efforts to make the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) postpone its disclosure rules scheduled to take effect on January 1.

The paper is entitled *Debt and Default in the 1930s: Causes and Consequences*.



London Bridge City with the Galleria (left) and No 1 London Bridge (far right).

## Citibank heads for Docklands

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Citibank is close to signing the lease on a large amount of space in the St Martins Property Corporation's 800,000 sq ft London Bridge City development, which stretches from London Bridge to Tower Bridge on the south side of the Thames.

Citibank is expected to take No 1 London Bridge and The Cottons buildings, under construction and due for completion in the summer of next year. It is believed to be paying just over £20 a sq ft for the space.

St Martins is also negotiating

with other tenants to take the Galleria, which will include shops.

The developer has just begun to let the retail space, having agreed terms with its office tenants.

St Martins, the wholly owned property arm of the Kuwaiti Investment Office, is investing £120 million in the first phase of what has been heralded as the biggest single commercial development in the capital since the Great Fire of 1666.

The need for large office buildings with open dealing floors has resulted in the

financial conglomerates searching for such space but finding little in the Square Mile to meet their needs.

St Martins' success in letting London Bridge City so quickly can largely be attributed to this requirement, as can the Credit Suisse First Boston's consortium agreement to build 10 million sq ft of offices at Canary Wharf, also in London's Docklands.

St Martins would say little more about the Citibank deal last night but it did scotch rumours that its tenant was paying £25 a sq ft for the space.

## TSB says yes to 26 directors

By Our City Editor

Trustee Saving Bank, the bank that says it likes to say yes, has appointed 26 people to the board of its new holding company, TSB Group.

This will be the master company in the group's stock market launch next February. The company and the board will become operational when the Treasury has sanctioned the vesting of the assets and liabilities of the existing TSBs into the new structure just before the flotation.

Sir John Read remains

chairman, but he is to be backed by Mr Ian Fraser, the former chairman of Lazard Brothers and the first director-general of the City Takeover Panel.

Below them are to be five executive directors, 12 directors selected round TSBs round the country, and seven independent board members.

"It is rather a lot," said Mr Richard Bing, the group's communications controller, "but it is a reflection of the existing central board and includes people who have been active in

TSB matters in one way or another, together with decent representation from outside."

Among the distinguished outsiders is Mr David Backhouse, the former managing director of Dunbar, the bank which is now part of Allied Dunbar. He is joined by Mr Dundas Hamilton, a former partner of the stockbroker Fielding, Newson-Smith & Co. and Mrs Jane Prior, a director of Trustcard and wife of Mr James Prior MP.

## Change in Third World development forecast

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent

A more pragmatic and internationally co-operative approach to development in the Third World will replace a simple reliance on market forces and the retreat from internationalism, Mr Tony Killick, director of the influential Overseas Development Institute, said yesterday.

Speaking at a meeting to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ODI and to launch an appeal for £500,000 for the institute, Mr Killick said: "The argument I want to make is against the dangers of overkill, of over-reliance on simplistic

market solutions. It is about the impossibility of a single method solution to the problems of widely differing countries.

"It is an argument for a more balanced view, for more of a mixed-economy approach. It is also a prediction that such a return to a more pragmatic middle ground will occur."

Mr Killick stressed that the retreat from internationalism, which seemed to be part of an over-reliance on the market, ignored the interdependence of the world.

## Thais consider £94m plan by Leyland Bus

Leyland Bus yesterday submitted a smaller plan to modernize Bangkok's state-run bus system. The scheme is a quarter the size of the £385 million project rejected by the Thai Government last week because of the cost and Thailand's reluctance to shoulder too much debt.

The revised proposal is worth £94 million and would provide for 770 large, double-decker buses over two years.

Leyland Bus has been hit by a sharp fall in the market, particularly in Britain. The company has maintained that no jobs would be at risk if the Thai contract were lost.

The crucial part of the new deal is that £20 million in aid from the British Government proposed for the original plan will stay.

## IN BRIEF

## Diamonds trade plan

The London Commodity Exchange will investigate introducing a diamond futures contract. The joint chairman of the formation committee will be Mr David Anderson of the LCE and Mr David Spitzer, a diamond merchant from Antwerp.

LCE sources said that the decision to proceed with the idea, which has been discussed for two years, was taken after a delegation of Antwerp diamond dealers visited London last week and pledged their support for the contract.

But it is understood that De Beers remains adamantly opposed to the idea, chiefly because it would establish an alternative pricing mechanism to the Central Selling Organisation cartel. The contract would use physical delivery and its practicality depends on new techniques for grading diamonds.

## Davidson ballot

Investors who applied for more than 1,500 shares in Davidson Pearce, the advertising agency, whose shares offer was 5.3 times oversubscribed, will receive 18.5 per cent of the number they applied for. There will be a ballot for those requesting 100 shares, and a weighted ballot for applications for more than 200 shares.

British Telecommunications has confirmed that it is taking a stake in the Channel bridge-tunnel consortium Eurotunnel. BT said the stake would be about 10 per cent of the initial investment, estimated by Eurotunnel at £5 billion at 1985 prices.

## Highland higher

Highland Distilleries lifted profits from £8.27 million to £9.51 million before tax in the year to August 31. Turnover rose from £92.2 million to £101 million and the total dividend is increased from 1.76p to 1.98p. *Tempos, page 25*

The chairman of Owen Owen, Mr J A H Norman, has written to shareholders saying the Clayform offer document only serves to reinforce Owen Owen's view that the offer is inadequate. The board will be sending its full reasons for rejecting the offer shortly.

## Less for More

More O'Ferrall, the outdoor advertising group, made taxable profits in the six months to June 30 of £376,000 against £1.2 million. *Tempos, page 25*

Meyer International's acquisition from Powell Duffryn of its wholly-owned timber and builders' merchants subsidiary, Powell Duffryn Timber, has been completed.

## Arab acquisition

The export finance arm of Henry Ansbacher has been acquired by Allied Arab Bank to boost its move into financing international trade, chiefly with Taiwan, the US and Europe.

## Lloyds first

Lloyds Bank has ordered 1,550 Viewdata terminals from Sony to enable it to become the first high street bank to offer instant processing of loan applications and insurance quotations. The order, worth £1.5 million, will equip 75 per cent of the bank's 2,000 branches with terminals.

## BP set to spend £905m on SE Asian projects

From David Young Singapore

British Petroleum plans to spend £1.3 billion (£905 million) from its cash mountain to increase investment in South-East Asia.

Oil exploration in Indonesia and Thailand is to be stepped up, and a potentially massive coal find in Indonesia developed. BP also plans to set up a retail network and will continue refinery investment in Singapore.

Mr Bryan Sanderson, head of BP Singapore, said yesterday that 80 per cent of oil investment will go on oil exploration to supplement the discovery in Indonesia, while BP's exploration work in China will continue to be financed directly from London.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	1048.0 (-2.9)
FT All Share	652.13 (-0.62)
Channel Tunnel	84.53 (-0.03)
FT-SE 100	1340.3 (-0.9)
Bargains, 24,253	
Datastream USM	105.81 (-0.27)
New York Dow Jones	1368.93 (-1.89)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow	13,020.39 (+4.70)
Hong Kong Hang Seng	1866.06 (+26.17)
Amsterdam General	216.0 (-0.4)
Sydney AO	1040.7 (+5.5)
Frankfurt Commerzbank	1675.9 (+0.8)
Brussels General	698.25 (+11.91)
Paris CAC	211.4 (-0.2)
Zurich SKA General	429.00 (+1.44)

## GOLD

London fixing: am \$325.50pm-\$326.15
close \$325.50-\$326.00-\$326.75-
227.25
New York: Comex \$325.35

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Ingram, Harold	120p +30p
Channel Tunnel	225p +45p
Radio City	21p +3p
Stoddard Hides	12p +2p
Claydon Son Ltd	143p +15p
Sycamore Hides	10p +1p
Rivlin I.D. & S.	92p +8p
V.W. Therman	88p +5p
Coin Industries	80p +4p
Stewart & Pitt	135p +9p
Sutherland, E.T.	105p +7p
William J.	78p +5p
Amstrad	358p +10p
Bristol Oil Mfr.	18p +1p
Gomme Holdings	45p +3p
Eurotherm Int.	285p +18p
Microvitec	33p +2p
Fargabrook Group	33p +2p
A.V.P. Holdings	280p +18p
Riley Leisure	45p +2p
Mathews, Bernard	540p +25p
Maimet Holdings	45p +2p
FALLS:	
Microbase	200p -30p
Pavon Int.	85p -6p
Pearce C.H.	650p -75p
Pet Group	105p -10p
Henderson Op	228p -18p
Mamcon Int	70p -5p

## CURRENCIES

London:	
\$: \$1.4355 (+0.0070)	
DM: 3.7800 (+0.0150)	
S: 109.07 (+0.0074)	
FF: 11.5235 (+0.0255)	
Yen: 309.46 (+2.28)	
Index: 81.0 (+0.4)	
New York:	
\$: \$1.4350	
DM: 2.8350	
S: 130.6 (-0.1)	
ECU: 2.585310	
SDR: 20.747832	

## INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base: 11 1/2%	
3-month Interbank: 11 1/2%-11 3/4%	
3-month eligible bills: buying rate 11 1/2%-11 3/4%	
US:	
Prime Rate: 9.50%	
Federal Funds: 8 1/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.22-7.21%	
30-year bonds: 10 1/4%-10 1/2%	

## Peachey Property Corporation plc

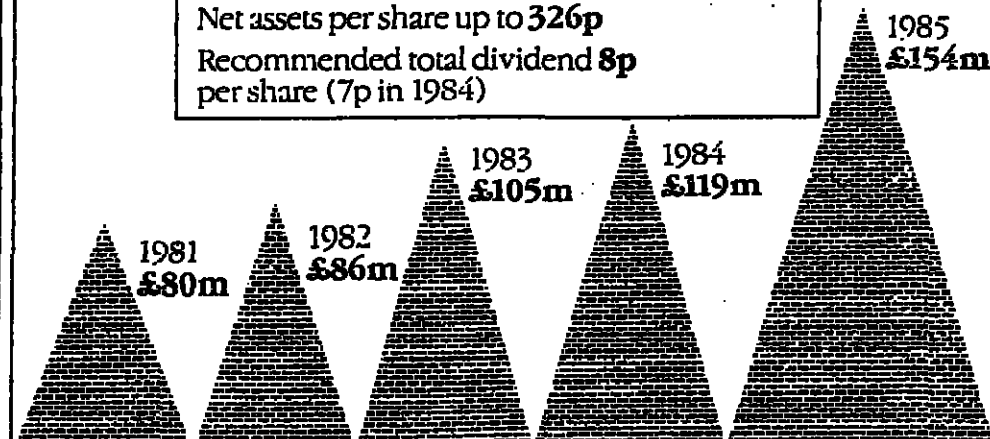
## Total property assets pass £150m landmark in anniversary year

1985 sees the fiftieth anniversary of Peachey's foundation.

In the years since 1935, our enterprise has grown and flourished so that, today, we are one of the country's leading property companies.

If you would like copies of our Report & Accounts for 1985, please write to the Secretary, Peachey Property Corporation plc, 19 Sloane Street, London SW1X 9NE.

Pre-tax profits up 23.7% to £10,290,000  
Net rents increased 14.3% to £7,692,000  
Total property assets increased to £154m  
Net assets per share up to 326p  
Recommended total dividend 8p per share (7p in 1984)





WALL STREET

# Dow starts with a fall

Prices opened lower in moderate trading of New York Stock Exchange issues yesterday. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 1.34 to 1,367.49 shortly after the market opened.

Declines led the advances by 341 to 277 among the 938 issues crossing the NYSE tape. Early turnover amounted to about 2.7 million shares.

Some analysts said that the market was poised to move higher. Others said it was heading for a period of consolidation after climbing nearly 30 points last week.

Mr Alfred Goldman, stock market strategist for A. G. Edwards & Sons in St. Louis, called the market's action "recently impressive".

"It looks as if the market wants to go higher and that there is enough interest and momentum to send it up to at least the 1400 level over the near term," Mr Goldman said.

Other analysts were more cautious. Salomon Brothers equity analysts said in the firm's quarterly investment strategy report that many of the forces that have propelled equity prices higher are already reflected in the market. The firm recommended a defensive investment strategy.

Trans World Airlines led the activities, unchanged at 22 1/2. Bectrice was second, off 1/2 to 4 1/2.

It is the kind of day that drives commodity traders out to long lunches. Sterling was slightly stronger, and that held a lid on prices, particularly on the

metals. But volumes all round were low and price ranges narrow.

Lead traded within a 53 range, and the ended the day and cocoa dropped back.

Only nickel among metals showed any life. Copper, aluminium and tin all fell.

Softs were similar. Coffee prices were steady.

**LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE**

Commodity	Unit	Price	Change
Soyabean	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Wheat	100 lbs	125.0	-0.5
Barley	100 lbs	110.0	-0.5
Maize	100 lbs	100.0	-0.5
Rubber	100 lbs	120.0	-0.5
Cocoa	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Lead	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Aluminium	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Tin	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Nickel	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Copper	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Gold	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5

**LONDON METAL EXCHANGE**

Metal	Unit	Price	Change
Copper	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Aluminium	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Tin	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Nickel	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Lead	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Gold	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5

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Copper	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5
Gold	100 lbs	150.0	-0.5

278	NICKEL
Cash	2905
Three months	2950
Vol	
Tone	

ETAL EXCHANGE	WEAT AND LIVE
cial prices	COMMISSION
umover figures	Average fatstock
per metric tonne	representative num
per bush or bush	December 19
W & Co. Ltd. report	GB: Cattle, 00.00p per
H GRADE	(+0.00).
971.00-972.00	GB: Sheep, 000.00p p
980.00-989.00	(+0.00).
11,150	cw (+0.00).
Steady	



## TEMPUS

## Pilkington plays safe and tries market's patience

The stock market is losing patience with Pilkington Brothers. Nearly a year after its £100 million rights issue, the Merseyside glassmaker has still not made a large acquisition. Yesterday's announcement of a small purchase, possibly costing \$5 million (£3.5 million), did little to improve sentiment.

The shares have underperformed by 24 per cent in the last year and yesterday they lost a further 5p to 275p. They are now trading on only six times earnings.

The market wants Pilkington to spend the rights issue proceeds in "single splurge" but Pilkington seems to be opting for a "safer" policy. A series of small acquisitions is likely to follow the purchase of the optical systems division of Phalo Corporation.

With this acquisition Pilkington has gained a foothold in the American market for fibre optic systems for data processing equipment. Sales are expected to be 4 million this year with more promised in 1986.

The new company will join the electrical division, already a growth area for the group. Last year it accounted for 8 per cent of profits but in the present year this division should be more important. The latest acquisition could be more important. The latest acquisition will also boost the North American contribution from last year's 5 per cent.

Pilkington is undoubtedly moving in the right direction, though not fast enough to swing investment sentiment. If the stock market can wait, the growth parts of the group should become too significant for even the harshest of Pilkington's critics to ignore. It is conceivable, in the present climate, that the shares' low rating might attract a bid.

## More O'Ferrall

The plunge in More O'Ferrall's interim profits to £376,000 before tax from £1.2 million was taken calmly on the stock market with the shares shedding only 5p to 80p.

The vicious discounting in the outdoor advertising market in the UK, which caused the downturn, was well and truly known about. Since May prices have hardened strongly to levels above those of October 1984, when the discounting trouble started. Current trading is so good that the company is

hoping it can claw back the first-half slippage and finish the year ahead of the previous year's £2.2 million profit.

Turnover in the first six months was marginally lower at £9.46 million than in the first half of 1984, when More stopped selling rather than sell at cut-throat rates.

Off-set by higher turnover in France and Belgium, the French subsidiary IDE was in for a full six months against three months.

The second half should benefit from non-recurring costs of reorganization at IDE, where the outstanding 26 per cent was bought in June, and from continuing rationalization of overheads from the integration of Adshel in the UK, where the outstanding 50 per cent was also bought in.

The full contribution of Adshel in the second half will be balanced by higher interest costs on the borrowings to fund the purchase.

The share price already anticipates the second-half recovery. A p/e ratio of 17, assuming a conservative £2.2 million profit, is quite demanding for a company which reached peak profits in 1980 and has been stuck on a lower plateau for the past four years.

Outdoor site classification and audience research - set up two weeks ago by the outdoor advertising industry - may win More some additional custom for its high-quality sites. Without some tangible benefit, the shares should be left alone. The yield, assuming an unchanged final on the enlarged equity, is 6 per cent.

Highland Distilleries

Investors in Highland Distilleries have done well over the past year: the share price has risen by nearly half to 81p. While they have clearly benefited from takeover activity in the sector, with Arthur Bell going to Guinness and the future of Distilleries still unclear, their gains also reflect the company's own trading performance.

This has been helped by a recent improvement in the market. Nationally, whisky sales in the first seven months of the year were 4 per cent up, with sales of bottled whisky in the important Scottish market rising by 8 per cent. Partly as a result, Highland lifted profits

by nearly 10 per cent in the first half and by 19 per cent in the second half, taking annual profits to £9.51 million before tax.

Famous Grouse, accounting for half the company's profits, increased sales in Scotland, recovering the previous year's decline. It holds the top position north of the border with 22 per cent of more of the market. In England and Wales it also held plenty of scope for further growth. Exports rose to 400,000 cases.

The result was helped by an increased dividend from the Cutty Sark company, Robertson & Boxer, where Highland has a 35 per cent stake. For largely historical reasons, Highland includes dividends recovered rather than its share of profits. If not for this unusual accounting policy, profits would have been £2.8 million higher last year.

There was a further boost from interest received on the company's growing pile of cash. For most of the year this must have been substantially higher than in 1983-84 and at the year end it stood at £2.2 million. A higher tax charge meant that all this running above the line left earnings standing still. Though a further small rise in tax is expected this year, it should not block progress altogether.

Trading prospects are good, with increasing penetration south of the border and overseas. Already, Famous Grouse sells well in Australia but now the company is looking to America for growth. It has recently taken on Heublein, the second largest US importer of spirits, but the benefits of this attractive sounding arrangement will take five years to feed through to profits as marketing costs are high.

Overall, Highland's progress is likely to be in line with the rest of the industry, after its first growth in recent years. In the light of this, the share rating at nearly 16 times reported earnings looks too optimistic but, after adjusting profits for Highland's accounting policies, the multiple falls to just 11 times historic earnings. On that rating, the shares at 81p look fairly valued following their good run. After an increased final dividend of 1.42p, they yield 3.5 per cent.

## Highland

## Distilleries

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## Markheath cuts half-year loss

Markheath Securities, the North London property company, has announced pretax losses of £360,000 for the half-year to June 30. This is down on the loss of £458,000 for the same period last year.

The company, whose chairman, Mr Paul Bobroff, is also chairman of the firm that owns Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, has a tax credit of £148,000 but after tax losses for the period were £212,000, with losses per share reduced to 1.21p from 3.01p in the corresponding half last year.

Markheath revealed a £1.65 million loss on its office development at Stratford, East London in its year-end results in May.

The development has been sold to Norwich Union at a 6.5 per cent yield, with rents guaranteed by Markheath at £7.50 a sq ft. The company is believed to have let part of the Stratford scheme but the rent is not yet known.

All three of the schemes bought with the proceeds of a £7.5 million rights issue in May, have been let. Markheath has prelet 50,000 sq ft of its office development in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, to Cullinet Software Group at £12 a sq ft. The tenant has an option to take the remaining 25,000 sq ft at the same rent.

Borrowing is 60 per cent of capital but the company forecasts a drop to 35 per cent at the year end.

## In brief

**PILKINGTON BROTHERS:** The company has acquired the optical systems division of Phalo Corporation, a US manufacturer of fibre optic communications equipment.

**BURMAH OIL:** Burma Speciality Chemicals has acquired Yates Manufacturing Co of Chicago for \$6.9 million (£4.8 million).

**BEJAM GROUP:** The chairman, Mr J. D. Aphorpe, says in his annual statement that the company's store-opening programme under the name of Bejam is expected to continue to expand during the current year.

**ENTERPRISE OIL:** Agreement has been reached on a recommended cash offer to be made by Enterprise Oil for Lenoxx Oil Co. The terms are 49.5p cash, plus a possible additional payment to be determined, for each Lenoxx ordinary share. The offer values Lenoxx at £2.86 billion.

**DUTCH/SHELL GROUP:** The Petroleum Authority of Thailand will take a 25 per cent share, to be raised later up to a maximum of 50 per cent, in a concession of the Royal Dutch/Shell concession of the north-central Thailand.

**C. H. PEARCE:** The boards of C. H. Pearce and Crest Nicholson have reached agreement on terms and conditions of a merger after a recommended offer by Crest for the whole of the issued share capital of Pearce. The offer values Pearce at £25.25 million equivalent to 66p per ordinary share.

**WETTEREN BROTHERS:** Results for the six months to June 30 (figures in £000) show turnover of 1103.7 (1102) and profit (61.9). The accumulated loss in the profit and loss account has been comfortably eliminated.

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## US broker takes another 5% of Minet

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Minet Holdings, the insurance broker, was boosted late yesterday by news that Corroon & Black Corporation, the American broker which already had 20 per cent of the British group, picked up another 5 per cent of Minet shares.

Kitcat & Aitken was the City firm which did the business, buying 3.87 million shares in the course of the afternoon at a price of about 233p. By the official close of trading the Minet price had risen 5p to 229p, but was still on the way up as Kitcat completed its assignment.

Corroon later put out a statement saying that the increased share holding was for investment purposes only, a reflection of its confidence in the London company.

Minet has been under pressure recently because of fears about the final cost of the PCW disaster. Minet faces a hefty bill if members of the PCW underwriting syndicates prove that Minet and others failed to control PCW and avoid the misappropriation of cash.

Buckley's Brewery, the Welsh group, fell 2p to 64p yesterday. Speculation is that Mr Nazam Virani, who runs the Belhaven Brewery Group, has lost interest in the company after building up a near 8 per cent shareholding. It is believed that Mr Virani is close to clinching the acquisition of George Bateman, the well-known Lincolnshire brewery.

Investors have been advised to sell Minet shares in recent weeks, on the basis that the roughly £9 million provision made by Minet for any liabilities is not nearly enough. The PCW activities caused total losses of more like £130 million, for which Minet may share a sizeable proportion of blame.

Earlier this month Minet shares were trading below 220p, and the price has been as low as 162p this year. The Corroon move is therefore highly important in sustaining the shares and bolstering City confidence.

Minet itself did its best to impress the Square Mile with recent interim figures. Profits came out some 43 per cent up on the previous comparable period, and analysts are optimistic about the group's trading prospects. But the PCW horror outweighed such good news.

Corroon says it does not intend to take its holding above the present 25 per cent. That should dampen City hopes of a full takeover by the New York based company.

The fact that The St Paul Companies of Minnesota, also have a 25 per cent stake in Minet is another obstacle to a bid. Though speculators have often suggested that one of the two United States groups would buy out the other's Minet shares, there is no sign of that happening. It looks more like a stalemate for both.

Minet is now effectively controlled from America - St Paul's and Corroon hold more than 50 per cent of the shares between them - but this fact draws no comment from Minet.

The only statement issued from Minet last night was from Mr Roy Penitt, the chairman. He said: "We regard this action as a sign of confidence on Minet Holdings and its future prospects."

Elsewhere shares suffered a minor relapse. After their recent heavy progress prices drifted although the market undertone remained relatively firm. Threats of cutbacks in Government defence spending was an inhibiting factor but generally the seemingly painless creation of a rival to the National Union of Mineworkers and confidence on the inflation front overcame most doubts.

At the close the FT-SE share index was down a mere 0.9 points at 1,340.3 points. The much more narrow FT 30 share index fell 2.9 points to 1,048.0 points.

The arrival of the long expected bid for Allied-Lyons from Elders, the Australian conglomerate, had little overall impact. Allied slipped 5p to 270p. Distillers Co, the other drinks group under takeover threat, was 7p down at 426p.

Tate & Lyle, the sugar group frustrated in its bid for the Brooke Bond food group, was active, topping the 500p mark. The company, which has switched brokers from W. Carter Communications, still hoping to buy Thames TV, fell 10p to 800p. Word is that Barham Group, now suspended pending a major deal, plans to buy the CC publishing interests which include the Fleet Street Letter.

Charter Consolidated, where the M & G investment group, now accounts for 11.6 per cent of the share capital, gained 3p to 203p. Minores, one of the holding company of South African millionaire Mr Harry Oppenheimer, is the largest single shareholder with 36 per cent of the equity.

Electricals were occasionally dull following the defence cut reports. General Electric Co eased 4p to 162p. But Amstrad Consumer Electronics jumped 10p to 158p.

More O'Ferrall, the poster advertising group, was depressed by its 70 per cent profits fall and closed 5p easier at 80p. Kenning Motor Group fell 7p to 133p. Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand born Australian based entrepreneur, has 29.9 per cent of the company and little hopes of immediate bid action is seen. Britannia Arrow, the financial group, was another to suffer from fading bid hopes.

Greenwell & Co to Hoare Govett, is thought by some to have an acquisition in the pipeline. Hopes that a long running Indonesian wrangle had been resolved are apparently wide of the mark.

There has, over the past few days, been at least one large buyer of Tate shares. It is thought to be Rowe & Pitman, the broker.

Grand Metropolitan fell 5p to 360p. Hopes bubble in some quarters that the management to float off as a separately quoted company its life assurance business, pushed the shares 7p higher to 261p at one time and prompted almost 1,000 option bargains.

## Traded option highlights

Commercial Union, the insurance group, was by far the most active stock on the London Trade Options Market yesterday. Speculation that it intended

to float off as a separately quoted company its life assurance business, pushed the shares 7p higher to 261p at one time and prompted almost 1,000 option bargains.

buy out deal, involving its Mecca Leisure and Warners Holiday off-shoots, could be settled this week.

ETR dropped 10p to 373p on suggestions that one broker had reduced its profits forecast.

Imperial Chemical Industries, ahead of third quarter results due on Thursday, slipped 7p to 647p. The market is going for an out-turn of about £190 million which would represent a 23 per cent decline. For the full year the figure is likely to be some £950 million against £1,034 million.

Carton Communications, still hoping to buy Thames TV, fell 10p to 800p. Word is that Barham Group, now suspended pending a major deal, plans to buy the CC publishing interests which include the Fleet Street Letter.

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losing 5p at 126p. English China Clays, another where bid expectations have failed to last, slipped 6p to 254p.

Prices weakened on the engineering pitches, as the strong run for such shares made a pause. British Aerospace, which has done so much through its ever-growing order book to bring cheer to the sector, slipped 8p to 448p, while Delta Group eased 1p down to 163p. Hawker Siddeley lost 6p to 403p and Vickers drifted 5p lower to 310p.

Smiths Industries was one of the few to go against the trend as the market looked forward to next month's results. The shares gained 6p to 221p.

Prices among the motor components companies were on the move. Armstrong Engineering drifted a few pence lower at one point, but buyers returned to leave the shares just 2p down on the day at 69 1/2p.

AE rose 2p to 136p on news of the sale of its West German subsidiary. Automotive Products went 4p better to 80p on

Shares of Bristol Evening Post, where Associated Newspapers has a near 24 per cent shareholding, jumped 25p to 595p as Kent Holdings, run by the builder Mr Michael Kent, increased its stake to 20.85 per cent. Mr Kent used to conduct the M. P. Kent building group.

There was action on the USM pitches, with Paveon International - formerly Sangars - losing 9p to 66p. The shares were hurt by news of the departure of two directors and the sale of a chunk of shares. Well over 4 million shares were placed at about 60p.

## Sun Life: lighting the way with new ideas

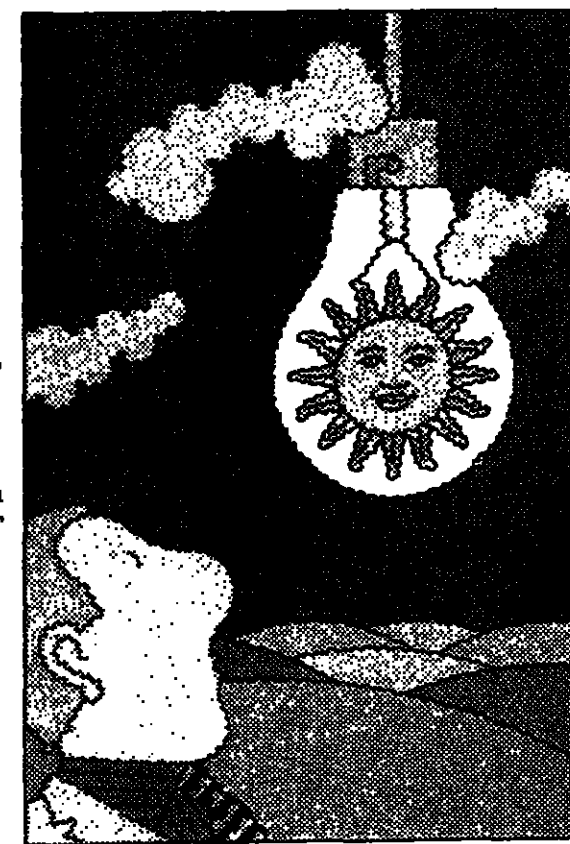
Even in an industry brimming with ideas Sun Life's record of innovation stands out. Our new range of unit trusts, for example, isn't just new.

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While our eight specialist funds, where advice and planning are essential, will be sold only by intermediaries. It's a typically entrepreneurial approach to what we see as opportunities in today's frenetic financial scene - not problems.

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# Swinburn should help Waajib fulfil promise of first outing

By Mandarin

There are few more significant bookings than that of Swinburn, who has been the second division of the EBF Soar Maiden Stakes at Leicester this afternoon.

Swinburn partnered less than a quarter of the Newmarket runner's last year but six of the stable's 13 winners. This season Swinburn has used Paul Dancer most of the time but Swinburn has still won on Castle Tweed, Dubai and Regal Diplomat from only a handful of rides.

Waajib had his first and only run at Newmarket earlier this month when he showed plenty of promise in finishing seventh to Crownwell Park in a division of the Kala Dancer Westley Maiden Stakes.

The Try My Best colt, ridden by Mark Banner, took a long time to get the hang of what was required but began to make headway over a furlong out and was putting in all his best work at the finish.

He is sure to have derived great benefit from that tender introduction and with Swinburn taking over the reins, Waajib is a confident choice to master Beresford, Saalib and Made to Order, who took the pick of the opposition.

Swinburn rides the Aga Khan's newcomer, Kaiyran, for Michael Stoute in the first division but he is up against it on his debut as Key To Freedom, Prohibited and Sultan

## RACING: GRAND NATIONAL WINNER COMES OUT OF RETIREMENT

Mohamed have already shown ability on a racecourse.

My selection is Prohibited, who finished last of five on his only run at Goodwood but was beaten only two lengths by the winner, Norfolk Sonata. The runner-up, Palastira, and the third, Simsim, have both won good maiden races since white

the third. Final Try had previously won at York before having the misfortune to come up against the subsequent Royal Lodge Stakes winner, Bonhomie, at Lingfield Park.

However, John Dunlop fares well with Sultan Mohamed, he should not leave Leicester empty-handed as Chahana has an outstanding chance of following up her victory at York 10 days ago in the Wreake Fillies Stakes.

This attractive daughter of Posse had previously shown promise when fourth behind her stable companion, Siyah Kaleem, in the Feltion Stakes at Newmarket and should hold too many guns for the former selling plate, Golden Slide.

Respondor, who finished second to Chahana at York on her first run, should get off the mark in the Murray Maiden Stakes at Hamilton Park, provided she handles the soft ground.

Moon Jester can provide Mark Usher with some comfort for the disqualification of Court and Spark from a valuable Newmarket race on Saturday by winning the Whirlies Handicap.



Anne, Duchess of Westminster, and Last Suspect, whose retirement proved short-lived

## Last Suspect back in training

By Christopher Goulding

Last Suspect, the 50-1 winner of this year's Grand National, has returned to his trainer, Tim Forster, after a short-lived retirement.

Anne, Duchess of Westminster, owner of the 11-year-old gelding, said after he had won the National that he would be retired to her paddock immediately. The decision, also owner of the incomparable Arkle, had to be persuaded to let Last Suspect in the National by his jockey, Hywel Davies. She has always had a dislike for the race and Arkle was never asked in the gruelling stamina test.

Forster said yesterday: "The horse has been back in training for a month. The owner decided that he looked so well after a summer out of grass that she sent him back to race. The plan will be long distance handicaps where the ground becomes soft and then see how things go."

Ballyross, the winner of three races last year for the duchess and Forster, has now been retired. Forster said: "He was to have been retired a year ago but they say it's a woman's prerogative to change her mind."

Tim Forster was voted National Hunt trainer of the year in 1985 for his success in the hands of Last Suspect. John Francome won the jockey's award for the third year in succession. The Slip Anchor team of Lord Howard de Walden, Henry Cecil and Steve Cashman were voted trainer, and Jimmy Swales, who looks after Tippecott, is stable lad of the year.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (except) Irish Sport, Always Limp, Tumble Dove.

## HAMILTON PARK

Going: soft  
Draw advantage: 5-6f, middle to high numbers best

2.15 BURNHILL MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £1,000; 6f) (11 runners)

1	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
2	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
3	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
4	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
5	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
6	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
7	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
8	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
9	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
10	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3
11	0000	AMPLIFY M Britain 8-0	K Darby	3

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## Hamilton selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Razwyeh, 2.45 Seven Clubs, 3.15 Amongst the Stars, 3.45 Frisco, 4.15 Respondor, 4.45 Moon Jester.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Razwyeh, 2.45 Grange Farm, 3.15 Bay Flieg, 4.15 Respondor, 4.45 Seven Swallows.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.45 Lady Cara.

## 2.45 FINAL SPRINT HANDICAP (£1,318: 5f) (8)

1	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
2	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
3	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
4	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
5	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
6	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
7	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3
8	0000	GRANGE FARM LAD (8) M Thompson 3-9-10	W Woods	3

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## Fontwell selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Hodnet, 2.30 Homesom, 3.0 My Dominion, 3.30 Fionnador, 4.0 Alexandra Palace, 4.30 John Brush.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

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## Fontwell selections

By Mandarin

## SPORT 31

15 000 SWYFORD PRINCE (8) K Stone 7-10 J Charnock 7

17 000 UNWITTED GUST (8) J Charnock 7-10 J Charnock 7

18 000 ANZOS 9-2 J Charnock 13-2 J Charnock 13-2

9-4 Bay Flieg, 11-4 Amongst the Stars, 4 Cameron, 11-4 Common Farm, 8 Cleverly, 12 others.

## 3.45 RIGHEAD SELLING STAKES (£850: 1m 40yds) (8)

1	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
2	0000	LITTLE NEWINGTON M Blyth 4-5-5	M Richardson	7
3	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
4	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
5	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
6	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
7	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5
8	0000	STAR EVENT J Edinburgh 4-5-5	G Duffield	5

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 4.15 MURRAY MAIDEN STAKES (£1,098: 1m 10yds) (12)

1	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
2	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
3	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
4	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
5	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
6	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
7	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
8	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
9	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
10	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
11	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11
12	0000	ASSAD LAM H Thompson 3-8-12	P D'Arcy	11

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 4.45 WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)

1	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
2	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
3	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
4	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
5	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
6	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
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8	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
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10	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
11	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
12	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
13	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
14	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		
15	0000	WHIRLIES HANDICAP (1,615: 1m 40yds) (15)		

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 3.30 HURLIMANN SWISS LAGER NOVICE CHASE (£2,442: 2m 4f) (8)

1	1111	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7
2	0415	MIDDLE-MARK (8) M Madgwick 7-11-4	M Madgwick	7
3	2121	HURRI (8) Gifford 5-11-2	R Howe	7
4	0000	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7
5	0000	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7
6	0000	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7
7	0000	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7
8	0000	FRONADORE (8) F Winter 7-11-4	M C Brooks	7

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 4.0 EASTGATE NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £2500: 2m 2f) (8)

1	1111	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7
2	0415	SALING BY Jinks 7-11-10	S Smith	7
3	2121	BALLIDA D Green 7-10-12	R Gifford	7
4	0000	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7
5	0000	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7
6	0000	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7
7	0000	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7
8	0000	MAN O'WAR (8) K Bailey 4-10-1	P Cosh	7

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 4.30 NORFOLK CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (amateur): £1,634: 2m 2f 10yds) (10)

1	4010	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
2	0415	CAUTIONARY (8) M Madgwick 7-11-4	M Madgwick	7
3	2121	HURRI (8) Gifford 5-11-2	R Howe	7
4	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
5	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
6	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
7	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
8	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
9	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7
10	0000	JOHN BRUSH J Gifford 7-11-10	T Gifford	7

11-10 Respondor, 2-4 Puffin, 11-4 Mrs Waddell, 8 Mrs Mallow, 14 Amply, 20 others.

## 4.0 EASTGATE NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £2500: 2m 2f) (8)

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with comprehensive knowledge and experience of all matters relating to the training of magistrates. A record of achievement of national level in the Magistrates' Court Service is desirable and any experience of relevant committee work would be an advantage. Excellent presentational skills are vital. Salary will be in the range £20,960 to £25,530 plus an Inner London allowance of £1365. Generous relocation expenses are payable where appropriate.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 8 November 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. G/6690.

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Application form and further particulars from the County Secretary and Solicitor, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JN. Telephone (0224) 3841 ext. 3013. Please quote reference CE.85.458.

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## Thirteen die in crash on M6

Continued from page 1

Immediately after the crash police closed both carriageways of the motorway between junctions 32 and 33, creating a 25-mile traffic jam on the northbound carriageway, and a 10-mile tailback on the southbound. Traffic was diverted on to the A6, producing a seven-mile jam of stationary traffic.

The crash occurred a short distance south of a contra-flow system, where a £15 million scheme is in progress to repair one of the earliest stretches of the motorway network, now 19 years old. At the scene of the accident, the nearby lane had been closed off for separate repair work by Lancashire County Council.

Some eyewitness reports spoke of the coach being on fire as it travelled down the southbound carriageway. At the scene, the coach appeared to have ridden over two cars, and to have a third car partially embedded in its front. The coach remained upright.

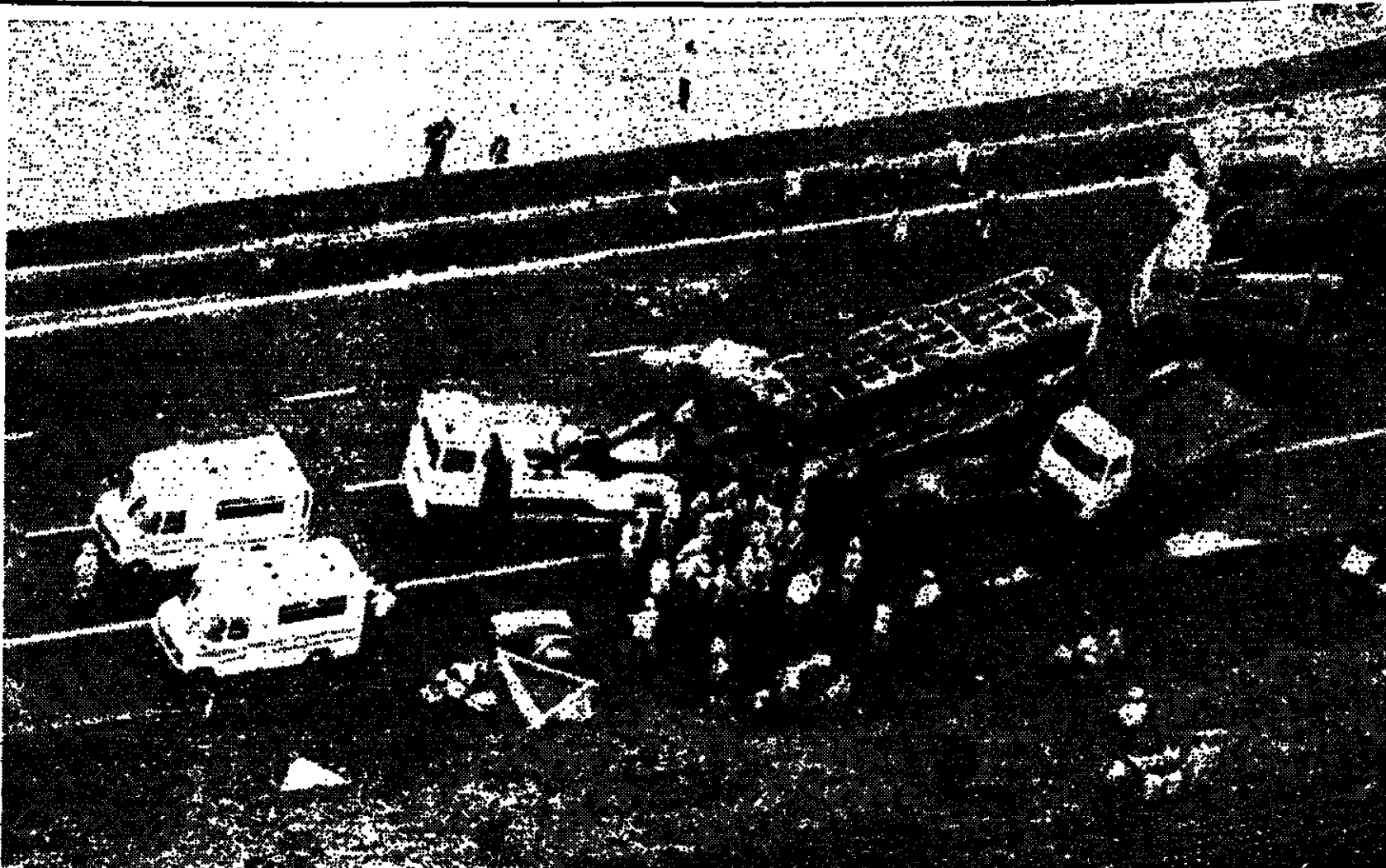
Firemen dealt with fires in the coach and in four other vehicles. When firemen arrived the driver's and passenger door of the coach, as well as its rear emergency exit, were already open, enabling many of the passengers to leap to safety from the burning interior.

Eastern Scottish said last night they were trying to discover the cause of the accident. Firemen at the scene said the bright sunshine may have affected drivers' visibility.

The 45 passengers, who had paid £11 each for the journey, left St Andrew Square coach station in Edinburgh at 9 am yesterday morning, and should have arrived in London at 6 pm.

One theory the police were examining is that a fuel pipe fractured in the initial impact. In the crash petrol or diesel fuel spread across the carriage and caught fire, and one car was completely crushed beneath the blazing shell of the coach.

Nine Italians were killed and 49 injured yesterday when their coach plunged off a motorway bridge near the coastal town of Pesaro, police said. They were returning from a holiday in central Italy to their homes in the north-east.



An aerial view of the scene where 13 people were killed yesterday, showing a recovery truck in front of the burnt-out coach.

## Concrete barriers urged

By Michael Bailey

Transport Editor

The British Road Federation yesterday called for stronger barriers between lanes in motorway contraflow systems, where traffic in both directions is using the same carriageway.

After yesterday's M6 crash, in which 13 people died, the hauliers' organization said there had been enough cross-over accidents at motorway contraflows to warrant a new look at safety. It urged a study of the latest practice in the United States, where reinforced, concrete barriers are now coming into use.

Lightweight plastic cones can be knocked away very easily and do not provide protection against traffic crossing into the wrong lane, the federation pointed out.

The Department of Transport said it was looking as a matter of urgency at fire-proofing in coaches, in particular the flammability of seats and

Previous serious accidents in

**MOTORWAY CRASHES**  
1971: M6, 10 killed, 61 injured, in 100-vehicle pile-up at Lymington, Hampshire.  
1983: June: M5, teacher killed and 20 children seriously injured when coach overturns in Devon.  
August: M4, four killed, 16 injured, when National Express coach and lorry collided.  
1984: December: M25, nine people killed (six burned alive in their vehicles) after 14 lorries and a dozen cars crash in fog near Tatsfield on the Kent-Surrey border.  
December: M27, five killed when an articulated lorry jackknifed into the path of two cars.  
1985, October: M1, 20 injured, one seriously, in 120-vehicle crash in fog between junctions 18 and 19, near Rugby. A lorry plunges over a

bridge carrying M6 over M1 a few miles further down from the start of the crash and a car driver below is seriously injured.

**OTHER CRASHES**  
1982, October: 11 killed when a lorry collides with a minibus at Berkeley, Gloucestershire.  
1983, August: 16 people, most of them elderly, die when single-decker bus runs out of control on a hill near Stanhope, Co Durham.  
1978: 32 people killed and 14 injured in Britain's worst-ever accident involving a coach. Brake failure leads coach to plunge off the road at Devil's Bridge, Wharfedale, Yorkshire.

1983, September: Six die, 40 hurt, when a lorry carrying a coach overturned into path of two cars and plunges down an embankment in remote spot in Highlands of Scotland.

interior linings. But there were no immediate plans for new contraflow barriers.

The Freight Transport Association praised existing contraflow systems, which it said

had been steadily improved in recent years and had become much safer. Cross-over layout was good, and drivers were learning to use them skilfully and safely.

## Lagerfeld walks out on his audience at Chanel

From Suzy Menkes, Paris

The House of Chanel, one of the most famous Paris names for half a century, may lose its design director, Karl Lagerfeld. Mr Lagerfeld, aged 48, who has revitalized Chanel over the last three years, walked out on his international audience of 2,500 after a triumphant ready-to-wear show in Paris yesterday morning.

The fresh, young collection, that put new life into the staid Chanel suit, produced short skirts, shapely jackets, tailored shirts and even a snappy body suit in black-silk and an almost transparent chiffon blouse. In spite of prolonged applause, and to the evident consternation of his team of models, Mr Lagerfeld failed to make the customary appearance on the runway.

His chief model and design muse, the aristocratic Ines de la Fressange, confirmed that Mr Lagerfeld had been backstage

during the hour-long show, but had slipped out by a back route. The House of Chanel put out a "no comment" statement to the persistent Paris rumours, fuelled by the designer's reticence, that there is a major rift.

Karl Lagerfeld was born in Germany, studied design in Paris and made his name at the ready-to-wear house of Chloé, where he worked for 16 years. He left there in 1982 and set up his own Karl Lagerfeld label.

Mr Lagerfeld's own label collections have not been ecstatically received and fashion critics have suggested that he might be best advised to concentrate his talents. But ironically, the man nicknamed "The Design Machine" produced his best ever Karl Lagerfeld collection in Paris last Saturday. The success of his Chanel show yesterday may convince Mr Lagerfeld to keep his options open.

## Cape whites arm as attacks rise

From A Correspondent, Johannesburg

White motorists using the road to Cape Town airport are carrying guns to protect themselves from stone-throwing rioters. Several drivers telephoned *The Cape Times* to say they would shoot at anyone who tried to stop their cars or throw stones from the roadside.

This escalation of the racial confrontation follows a spate of attacks on cars on the N2 trunk road during the weekend and yesterday. On Sunday a Coloured, William Baadjies, was shot dead by a white driver whose car had been damaged by stones.

In another incident an Irish hairdresser, Mr Edward Melleck, fled for his life after his car was petrol-bombed on the N2. He was chased by rioters, and hid until they passed.

Twenty-two cars were damaged throughout Cape Town yesterday, three by petrol bombs, the rest by stones.

At the University of the Western Cape, which has mainly Coloured students, several were arrested after a lecture theatre was damaged by a petrol bomb.

Rioting was reported from several parts of the Cape Flats and from the black townships of Langa and Guguletu, which were sealed off by police.

Police disclosed that they killed two Coloured men on Sunday when they fired on rioters. The death toll since riotous unrest broke out in the Cape Town area on August 28 is 68.

The Mitchell's Plain township: police have opened an attempted murder file after shots were fired at troops on Sunday. No arrests have been made.

Three community councillors from Guguletu and Langa announced their resignation yesterday because of threats to their families.

## Summit accord is hailed as key step

Continued from page 1

of a suspension of violence on all sides.

The accord has nine "sanctions" to be adopted by Commonwealth members. Six have already been implemented by Britain as part of a package of measures agreed by the European Community last month. Two are new: a curb on the import of kruggerands and an end to government funding for trade missions and trade fairs in South Africa.

A third, a ban on all new government loans to the South African Government and its agencies, is already in operation although never laid down in formal terms.

British officials said the economic impact of the new measures would be negligible. British imports of kruggerands, last year amounted to about £500,000. In 1984/85 the Government spent £185,000 sponsoring trade missions and trade fairs to South Africa.

The accord also provides a mechanism for further measures to be taken if no progress is achieved within six months. It states that "some of

us" would consider measures such as severing air links to South Africa, banning new investment, or ending imports of South African food products.

Mrs Thatcher said it was clear she would not consider taking any of these steps at this stage.

It is hoped that the committee of "eminent persons" will be established within a month. A number of names have already been bandied around, such as Mr Gough Whitlam, and Mr Malcolm Fraser, two former Australian prime ministers, and Mr Pierre Trudeau, the former Prime Minister of Canada. The leaders of Britain, Australia, Bahamas, Canada, India, Zambia and Zimbabwe have been asked to monitor the committee's work and the extent to which South Africa makes progress.

The agreement was reached after a long weekend of negotiations during which Mrs Thatcher found herself totally isolated over sanctions. Agreement was only reached when, realizing that other countries were prepared to make a declaration without Britain, she agreed to the new restrictive measures.

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as Patron, the Royal Society for Nature Conservation, attends a reception given by the society at the Natural History Museum, SW7, 7.15.

Princess Anne visits the Bishop Burton College of Agriculture, near Beverley, North Humberside, 11.15; and opens the Bailey Ward at the Princess Royal Hospital, Huddersfield, 6.30 she re-opens the New Hall Theatre.

The Duke of Gloucester presents the Evian Health Awards at a lunch, Dorchester Hotel, 1.

The Duchess of Gloucester visits Manchester to open the new premises of the Cripples Help Society, and later, as President, visits the Princess Christian College.

Prince Michael of Kent, as President of MIRA, attends the Motor Agents Association dinner, Dorchester Hotel, 7.30.

**New exhibition**  
Works by Jack Hellewell: Pottery by Uch Spettigue; Grape Lane Gallery, 17, Grape Lane, Lower Peterborough, 7.30 to 10.30 (ends Nov 16).

**Exhibitions in progress**  
Paintings by Clyde Hopkins: sculpture and drawings by Solari Douglas Comp; Ikon Gallery, 58-72 John Bright Street, Birmingham; Tues to Sat 10.30 to 4.30 (ends Nov 2).

Work by Michael Chase and Valerie Thornton: Art Gallery, The Market Cross, Bury St Edmunds; Tues to Sat 10.30 to 4.30 (ends Nov 2).

Paintings by Edna Lamb: Castle Museum, Castle Hill, Clitheroe.

Lancs: Mon to Sun 2 to 4.30 (ends Oct 30).

Still life and landscape in oils by Gerald Norcross: works by John Ward: The Ogle Gallery 12 Rutland Terrace, Montpellier St, Cheltenham; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Nov 9).

**Last chance to see**  
Manuscripts, books and miniatures of Charles Tomlinson; Library, University, Keele, 9.30 to 5.30.

Sculpture and drawings by Ben Jones: Oriel, Welsh Arts Council Gallery, 53 Charles St, Cardiff, 9.30 to 5.30.

Organ recital by Malcolm Archer, Bristol Cathedral, 1.15.

Organ recital by Christopher Toller: Winchester College Chapel, 7.30.

Concert by the Wind Octet of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe; County Hall, Truro, 7.30.

Concert by the Lindsay String Quartet; Workshop College, Notts, 7.45.

Organ recital by Ronald Frost: St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.

Violin recital by Anne Wilson; Chichester Cathedral, 1.10.

Oboc recital by Catriona Miller; King's Hall, Newcastle University, 1.10.

Song recital by Maggie Ross; St David's Hall, Cardiff, 1.05.

**Talks, lectures**  
Artists and craftsmen of the medieval theatre, by Glynn Wickham; Reception Room, Wills Memorial Building, Bristol University, 5.15.

Bombardment of the earth by extraterrestrial bodies by Prof Wolf von Engelhardt; Curtis Auditorium, School of Physics, Newcastle University, 5.30.

Circle and Square: poetry and reason, by the art of Klee by Dr Richard Verdi; Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke St, Oxford, 4.45.

Aspects of Youth: Putting on the style - images of youth since the Second World War; Vauxhall College, York University, 8.

### TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending October 19, 1985

1. Open All Hours, 18.00m
2. EastEnders (Thu/Sat), 18.00m
3. EastEnders (Sun/Sat), 18.00m
4. In Sickness and in Health, 18.40m
5. Bargain, 14.40m
6. Saturday Night Takeaway, 12.25m
7. Wogan (Fri), 12.15m
8. The Fawlty Towers, 12.15m
9. Just Good Friends, 12.00m
10. Ever Decreasing Circles, 12.25m

1. Fresh Fields, Thames, 17.00m
2. The Fawlty Towers, 12.15m
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### Roads

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures on either carriageway between junctions 21 and 22 (Chepstow) at weekends during October. A568: Resurfacing between Chepstow and Westbury at Upper Langford, Avon. A350: Roadworks on the Shaftesbury to Blandford road between Cann Hill and Compton Abbas (Dorset); delays signposted; diversion for large vehicles.

The North: M62: Contraflow between junctions 32 (A639 Castleford) and 33 (A1), W Yorkshire; westbound delays; work on the eastbound slip road at junction 32. A74: Contraflow between end of M6 (junction 4) and Todhills, Cumbria. A5085: Roadworks on the Blackpool Road, Haslam Park Bridge, Preston; delays at peak periods.

Scotland: A75: Bypass construction on the A75 at Garchoose of Fleet; single lane traffic with lights; car required. A702: Only one lane with lights at Carlisle; bridge damage.

Information supplied by the AA

**The papers**  
"Real economic sanctions would hurt the people of Britain and they would hurt the people of South Africa, black, coloured and white," says the Daily Mail, commenting on the meeting of Commonwealth leaders in Nassau. It adds: "The outlook for South Africa remains grim. At least Mrs Thatcher at Nassau has done what she could to stop the horror film from being speeded up."

The Daily Express says: "Just the one cheer for Mrs Thatcher's victory on the issue of Commonwealth sanctions against South Africa." It adds: "Yes, the measure she agreed to are 'tiny'. The first steps into quicksand need only be tiny, however, and you can only soon find yourself on your neck."

The paper says: "The proposed measures will neither harm the South African economy nor influence the South African Government. But by agreeing to them Mrs Thatcher has shown Commonwealth leaders that she can be bullied."

The Sun, also commenting on Mrs Thatcher's solitary stand against imposing sanctions against South Africa, says that in the end it was the others who had to climb down. The paper adds: "Britain is fortunate to have in Margaret Thatcher a leader so dedicated to the nation's real interests."

**Best wines**  
In a blind tasting of 44 Italian red wines da tavola priced not more than £2.25 for 70 cl, the following six were chosen as excellent value:  
1982 Vio Rosso dal Vigneto di Brumello, Fattoria di S. Angelo in Colle, Demolungo Wines, High Wycombe (0454-713376), £4.10;  
1981 Venegazza Della Casa, Venegazza 1979, The Market (01-736-3488), £7.50; 1981 Torre Quarata, Tenuta Casale di Quattro, Millevin, Stockport (0663-24366), £3.85; 1981 Castel S. Michele, Luigi's (01-491-3203), £5.70; Sotterelli Rossi di Menfi, Ciborio Ltd (01-578-4388), £2.25.

**The pound**  
Australia \$ 2.15  
Canada \$ 1.25  
Hong Kong \$ 1.25  
Italy L 1.25  
Japan ¥ 1.25  
New Zealand \$ 1.25  
Norway Nkr 1.25  
Portugal Esc 1.25  
Spain Ptas 1.25  
Sweden S 1.25  
Switzerland Sfr 1.25  
Taiwan NT\$ 1.25  
Thailand Baht 1.25  
US \$ 1.25  
Yugoslavia Din 1.25

**Anniversaries**  
Birth: Franz Liszt, Raiding, Hungary, 1811; Sarah Bernhardt, Paris, 1844.  
Deaths: Sir Claudius Sherrill, admiral, drowned on his ship the "Agassiz", off the Isles of Scilly, 1707; Thomas Sheraton, cabinet-maker, London, 1806; Sir Frederick Marchant, geologist, London, 1871; Paul Cassius, Aix-en-Provence, 1906; Sir John Fortescue, military historian, Cannes, 1933; Edward Carson, Baron Carson, lawyer and politician, Minister, Kent, 1935; Pablo Casals, Rio Piedras, Argentina, 1973; Arnold Toynbee, historian, 1975.

**Parliament today**  
Commons (2.30): European Communities (Finance) Bill, remaining stages.  
Lords (2.30): Administration of Justice Bill, Commons amendments. Oil and Pipelines Bill, third reading.

**Portfolio**  
How to claim  
Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 025-25272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your claim is made. The claim must be made on the day of the event. You must have your card with you when you claim.

**Solution of Puzzle No 16,873**  
If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call the Times Portfolio claim line between the stipulated hours.  
No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stipulated hours.  
The above restrictions are applicable to both daily and weekly crossword claims.

**Some Times Portfolio cards include minor proposals to the publishers on the reverse side. These cards are not included in the weekly crossword claims.**  
The winning of £100 and £100 has been awarded from reader entries for 3 and 4 respectively. The Game card is not affected and all continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

## Weather forecast

A large anticyclone over Germany will maintain a dry airstream with light winds over most of the British Isles.

**6am to midnight**  
London, SE, central S, E, SW, NW, central W, England, East Angles, Midlands, Central Wales, Wales: Overcast fog patches clearing, then dry with sunny periods; wind variable, mainly S to S.W.; max temp 14C (57F).  
Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth: Mainly dry with sunny or clear intervals; wind variable, mainly S; light; max temp 13C (55F).

NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, Northern Ireland: Mainly cloudy, perhaps a little rain in places; wind S to S.W., locally fresh; max temp 13C (55F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Similar, but further cloud and some rain spreading SE on Thursday; near normal temperatures.

**SEA PASSAGES:** S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Winds E light, occasionally moderate; fair; visibility moderate or good; sea slight S; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am; 119 am.